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18 August 1977

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

No. 315

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HONG KONG

POVERTY LED TO DRUG INVOLVEMENT

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 5 Jun 77 p 8

[Text]

A former seaman who was said to have succumbed to temptation when he was in desperate need of money was yesterday sentenced to nine years' imprisonment for possessing \$280,000 worth of morphine blocks for unlawful trafficking.

Mr Justice McMullin, passing sentence on Yeung Hok-kwong (44) said he had taken into consideration that unlike other drug conspiracy cases, Yeung was a poor man and succumbed to temptation in circumstances which were pressing heavily on him at the time.

According to Yeung's counsel, Mr Robert Kotewall, it was necessary for Yeung to remit money to his wife and children in China because they were being discriminated against as he had fled to Hongkong as an illegal immigrant in 1968.

Yeung pleaded guilty to possessing nearly 10 kilograms of morphine which could be processed into heroin worth \$4 million.

He was arrested by police acting on information on January 4 when he came out of a building in Belchers Street, Western, carrying a plastic bag containing the drugs.

Mr Kotewall said in mitigation that Yeung had worked in factories and had been employed as a seaman after he came to Hongkong, but at the time of the offence he was unemployed and his son was in hospital.

As he was desperately in need of money, he went to see a friend, Lee Kow, for a loan of \$2,000.

Lee told him to return two days later.

When he saw Lee again, he was told to deliver a plastic bag to some person in a car before he would get the loan.

Although he suspected the bag contained dangerous drugs, Yeung carried it because he was badly in need of the loan.

Mr Kotewall was instructed by Peter C. Wong and Company.

Crown Counsel David Little prosecuted.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

SERGEANT TELLS WHY SUSPECTS GO FREE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 Jun 77 p 7

[Text] It is general police practice to allow a suspect to go free if he supplies information about more serious offences, a Victoria District Court judge heard yesterday.

This was said by Police Sergeant Ho Chun-po, a defendant in the conspiracy trial of five police officers attached to the Special Duty Squad of Kowloon headquarters.

Ho said he had asked Superintendent Porter whether it would contravene police regulations if a suspect, who was going to give information leading to other cases, could be released.

"He [Porter] said he knew quite a number of efficient police officers acting that way, but the matter must be recorded in the police notebook," Ho said.

He thought his superior, Inspector Curry, should not have told him to arrest an alleged drug suspect, Szeto Cheuk, after he [Curry] was not "satisfied" with a drug manufacturing hut discovered on Szeto's information.

"In our usual practice, we would not arrest such informers; besides I had already promised Szeto he could go free," Ho said.

"If other informers learn about this incident, they will not trust us and will not give us information in the future.

"It would render our dealings with drug offences difficult."

Ho went on to say that Inspector Curry asked him to investigate Szeto's alleged drug activities last 22 December.

The next day, he, together with the other four defendants, went to Szeto's house at Pak Tin Estate and found two bottles of suspected dangerous drugs.

Szeto claimed to be an ex-policeman and promised to supply information about two big drug cases if he was not arrested, Ho said.

He contacted Inspector Curry who told him to hear what Szeto had to say. He thought that meant accepting Szeto's offer and not arresting him.

Szeto then telephoned a Mr Lam Pui for a consignment of "goods."

When Lam arrived in a car to meet Szeto later that evening, he was arrested while Szeto was allowed to go after a "pretended" chase.

"It is common practice to cover informers so that they would not be detected," Ho said.

At 2100 hours they went to Szeto's home from where he was to lead them to a drug manufacturing hut in Ma Chai Hang.

When Inspector Curry later arrived at the hut, he was not satisfied with it and ordered Szeto's arrest.

However, they could not find Szeto in his home.

Meanwhile, Lam Pui was released.

Ho claimed he and Tsui (a defendant) had never asked or received money from Szeto.

Hearing continues on Monday before Judge de Basto, QC.

The defendants are: Ho Chun-po (29), sergeant; Ho Kam-chi (23); Tsui Wai-kwong (25); Yeung Kai-tang (29) and Wan Tai-hong (20) constables.

They are jointly charged with conspiring between 22 and 24 March to pervert the course of justice by falsely securing one Szeto Cheuk with a commission of dangerous drugs offences.

Ho Chun-po and Tsui are jointed charged with soliciting an unspecified sum and accepting \$2,000 from Szeto without lawful authority or reasonable excuse as inducement from abstaining from taking action against Szeto in respect of a dangerous drug offence on 23 and 24 December last year.

The two are also charged with possessing dangerous drugs.

Crown Counsel Gerry Edwards is appearing for the prosecution.

Mr J. Kwong, instructed by K. Y. Woo and Company, represents the defendants.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC EFFORT TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE, TREAT ADDICTS

First Anti-drug Training Camp Has Many Volunteers

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 25 Jun 77 p 7

[Text]

Response by volunteers to take part in Hongkong's first-ever training camp to fight narcotics has been so great that the organisers are considering a series of similar courses in future.

More than 600 volunteers applied but only 190 were selected due to the camp's limited capacity, a spokesman for the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts (SARDA), one of the organisers, said yesterday.

"We are considering

organising more such camps to accommodate the 400 unsuccessful applicants," the spokesman said.

The three-day session at the Suen Douh Camp in Fanling begins next Friday.

The selected volunteers, aged between 18 and 29, include social workers, factory workers, community nurses, teachers, and post-graduate students.

They will be given lectures on the medical and psychosocial aspects of drug

addiction, the personality and socio-economic characteristic of drug abusers, treatment and rehabilitation, education and prevention of drug abuse, and the roles and functions of volunteers.

The camp has been organised by SARDA, its alumni association, and the Suen Douh Camp in conjunction with the current anti-narcotics campaign.

It is sponsored by the Royal Hongkong Jockey Club and the Lions Club of North Kowloon.

Acupuncture Center for Drug Addicts Opened

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 3 Jul 77 p 7

[Article by Halima Guterres]

[Text]

The world's first out-patient treatment centre where drug addicts are cured by acupuncture and electric stimulation was opened in Hongkong yesterday.

The out-patient clinic, which is geared to treating large numbers of addicts is at the Tung Wah Hospital in Po Yee Street.

"There are no limitations to the number of addicts we can treat," the pioneer of the new technique, Dr H. L. Wen, said.

Dr Wen, who heads the acupuncture electro-stimulation centre said that initially the patient is treated daily but this is gradually reduced as the withdrawal symptoms begin to disappear.

While the craving for drugs varies with the length and nature of the addiction Dr Wen said it will be removed after about a fortnight.

If the patient still feels the urge for narcotics he can go back for follow-up treatment.

Dr Wen said pocket-sized machines have been designed and patients can use these for self-treatment.

The use of acupuncture to cure drug addiction was developed by Dr Wen five years ago while working at the neurosurgical unit of the Kwong Wah Hospital.

Since then it had been the subject of research and development on a volunteer in-patient basis in the hospital and the women treatment centre of the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts.

More than 300 patients have been treated.

The technique aims at suppressing the withdrawal symptoms of a patient by applying a five to six volt current through a pair of acupuncture needles which are inserted bilaterally into his ear conch.

The session normally lasts for 30 minutes after which the patient can leave and continue a normal life under treatment.

Follow-ups on 35 patients showed that 51 per cent stayed off drugs after a year but the abstinence rate dropped to 30 per cent after two years.

This compares with a 30 to 32 per cent abstinence rate for people being treated with methadone.

Dr Wen says the advantage of the new technique is that patients are not maintained on drugs.

He added: "Also in the long-run from the point of view of Government the programme will be much more economical than say methadone maintenance."

This new mode of treatment has captured a great deal of attention and interest in many countries.

In the United States the National Institute on Drug Abuse contributed about \$464,000 to the centre to promote research.

The Tung Wah Group of Hospitals has also contributed \$15,000 towards the centre.

The cost of setting up the centre - the world's first - and its first year is estimated to be about \$520,000.

The balance is being supplied by the Government on the recommendation of the Action Committee Against Narcotics.

The initial target will be to recruit 350 patients for research purposes but even after the quota is filled others will be accepted.

The patients will be divided into four groups: The first will receive only acupuncture electro-stimulation treatment. The other three will also be given doses of methadone for three days, a week, and a fortnight respectively. The methadone acts as a stabiliser.

After observing the results of the various groups doctors will decide which type of treatment is the most effective, Dr Wen said.

A team of social workers will counsel the patients and help solve their personal or family problems.

They will also follow-up the cases for at least one, and hopefully if finances permits, two years to determine the long-term success.

The Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Peter Lee, described the new approach as a "major milestone" in the treatment and rehabilitation programme for drug addicts.

With the highest rate of drug addiction in the world, Hongkong must aim at treatment which can be applied effectively to the largest number, he said. This is what the new programme is designed to do.

"And the Government is willing to try any programme which offers relief and assistance on a cost-effective basis to the addicts themselves."

The clinic is open seven days a week including public holidays from 2 pm to 10 pm. Treatment is free to any addict of heroin, opium and morphine.

Drug Fight Paying Off

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Jul 77 p 6

[Text]

More drug addicts are now seeking treatment than ever before, and there are indications that Hongkong's drug problem is now contained, the Acting Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Fred Ting, said last night.

Mr Ting was speaking at the opening of the Anti-Drug Variety Show at the Aberdeen Kaifong Welfare Association Community Centre.

He said there were 8,167 addicts undergoing treatment at the beginning of this month, as compared with 6,573 in January this year, and 3,159 in January last year. Treatment programmes are provided by the Prisons Department, the Medical and Health Department, and the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts.

Effective law enforcement action has caused the price of illicit drugs to skyrocket and the supply to dwindle, Mr Ting said.

"This has compelled large numbers of drug addicts to seek treatment, and also apparently imposed a deterrent effect on young people experimenting with heroin."

Mr Ting also said continuous improvements to existing treatment and rehabilitation programmes have made them more attractive and acceptable to addicts.

"The Government now adopts a multiple approach to treating drug addicts, as one particular mode of treatment may not appeal to all because of differing family backgrounds and employment."

Mr Ting also credited publicity efforts as a major factor in persuading addicts to seek treatment.

"Without these treatment programmes, the 8,167 addicts we are now treating would be spending at least \$7

million a month, or \$84 million a year on illicit drugs," he said.

"Hongkong's relentless efforts to combat the chronic scourge of drug trafficking and drug abuse are beginning to pay off."

Mr Ting congratulated the Police Narcotics Bureau and the Preventive Service for their achievements in this field.

"They have applied constant pressure effectively in inhibiting supplies of dangerous drugs to addicts, and have prevented the emergence so far of any major importing syndicate to succeed those already dissolved," he said.

Last year, the Police Narcotics Bureau and the Preventive Service seized 3,553 kilograms of opium, 291 kilograms of morphine and 164 kilograms of heroin valued at more than \$270 million.

Compared with 1975, this was a 750 per cent increase in opium, a 100 per cent increase in morphine and a slight decrease in heroin.

Last year, 3,486 people were arrested and prosecuted for serious drug offences such as trafficking, manufacturing and possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of trafficking. This was an increase of 70 per cent on 1975.

Those arrested included 18 syndicate heads and assistant heads, 19 major distributors, four major brokers, 16 heroin chemists, 13 drug store keepers, 29 couriers and four independent operators.

Mr Ting said the quantity of drugs seized last year was an outstanding record by international standards.

"It is estimated to be about 20 per cent of the heroin and morphine, and about 60 per cent of the opium which was smuggled into Hongkong during the whole year."

Mr Ting stressed the difficulties faced by law enforcement agencies in Hongkong.

"The vast movement of passengers, cargo and fishing vessels, which is vital to Hongkong's economic well-being, also makes it vulnerable to international drug traffickers," he said.

A drug abuse enquiry service will be set up in September, and an intensive

publicity campaign will be mounted in Shamshuiipo in November.

"We have now reached the position where it can be said that the drug problem has been contained. But there are probably still as many as 60,000 people or more who are suffering from drug addiction.

"This means there is one addict in every 75 people, so there is still a very long way to go," he said.

The "Anti-Drug Variety Show was organised by the Alumni Association of the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts, and the Southern District Anti-Drug Activity Committee of Hongkong. It was sponsored by the Social Welfare Department and the Preventive Education and Publicity Sub-Committee of the Action Committee Against Narcotics.

Drug Exhibition Scheduled To Open

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Jul 77 p 6

[Text]

The dangers of drug abuse will be highlighted in an exhibition at May House next week.

The display has been organised by the Action Committee Against Narcotics and the Royal Hongkong Police Narcotics Bureau. It is part of a major exhibition on police work staged for Junior Police Call members, and coincides with ACAN's anti-narcotics publicity campaign.

There will be exhibits of drugs, drug-making equipment and photographs. A 20 minute film, "A Case against Narcotics" will be shown. Copies of a booklet, "Drug Problem" and school timetable cards carrying anti-narcotics slogans will be distributed.

The exhibition is open to the public from 10 am to 6 pm from tomorrow to Saturday.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

COUPLE TO GET WORD ON DETENTION

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Jun 77 p 10

[Text]

The Full Bench of the High Court will on August 2 hear arguments to determine whether or not the detention of a couple in prison pending extradition to Canada to stand trial on drug conspiracy charges, was lawful.

In an attempt to fight an extradition order made by a Central Court magistrate earlier this month, solicitors for Lui King (46), merchant, and his wife, Lui Au Shun-ha (45), obtained leave from the High Court last Monday to issue a writ of habeas corpus for their release.

Yesterday, the Commissioner of Prisons filed a return, saying that he had rightly taken custody of the couple under the Magistrates Warrant of Arrest.

However, to enable further arguments on the merits of the detention, the court fixed the hearing on August 2.

The couple face two conspiracy charges under the Narcotics Control Act of Canada, and the Minister of Justice and the Attorney-General of Canada applied for their extradition under the Fugitives Offenders (Hongkong) Order.

Mr Anthony Sedgwick appeared for the couple, on the instructions of David Tsang and Co.

Appearing for the Crown yesterday was Mr David Little.

The Full Bench comprised Mr Justice Trainor and Mr Justice Cons.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

HEARING BEGINS ON CHARGES AGAINST PET MERCHANT, WIFE

Couple Charged With Manufacture of Drugs

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Jun 77 p 10

[Text]

Preventive Service officers kept watch on the suspected drug activities of a couple for over five months before deciding to raid their flat it was stated in the High Court yesterday.

Ng Chi-kin (26), pet merchant, and his wife, Siu Suet-ching (25), are charged with:

● Manufacturing diacetylmorphine hydrochloride in a flat in Joyful Villa, 11 Hong Lee Road, Kun Tong, on or about December 9.

● Possessing 841.6 grams of a mixture containing 196 grams of salts of esters of

morphine and another 206.8 grams of a mixture containing 165.8 grams of salts of esters of morphine for the purpose of unlawful trafficking.

● Possessing 4.9 litres of acetic anhydride.

The heroin and acetic anhydride are alleged to be worth \$430,000 on the street.

Crown Counsel Miss Margaret Harriss told the court that when revenue officers went into the couple's flat there they found paraphernalia for the manufacturing of drugs and a large quantity of heroin.

The flat's owner, Mr C.M. Yuen, testified that he had signed a tenancy agreement with Siu, effective from August 20 last year to August 19 this year at \$1,500 a month.

Hearing before Mr Commissioner Garcia and a jury of five men and two women, continues today.

Miss Ida Cheung instructed by the Director of Legal Aid, represents the defendants.

Couple Found Guilty

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Jul 77 p 7

[Text]

A pet merchant and his wife were yesterday sentenced to 10 years and three years' imprisonment respectively for possession of drugs for unlawful trafficking.

Ng Chi-kin (26) and his wife, Siu Suet-ching (25), were convicted of having 841.6 grams of a mixture containing 196 grams of salts of esters of morphine and another 206.8 grams of a mixture containing

165.8 grams of salts of esters of morphine in a flat in Joyful Villa, 11 Hong Lee Road, Kun Tong, on or about December 9 last year.

They were also convicted of possessing 4.9 litres of acetic anhydride.

A jury of five men and two women found Ng guilty by a vote of six to one. The verdict on Siu was 5-2.

Mr Commissioner Garcia had earlier directed the jury to acquit the defendants of a charge of manufacturing

diacetylmorphine hydrochloride after hearing submissions by defence counsel Miss Ida Cheung.

The court was told that preventive service officers had kept watch on the couple for more than five months before raiding their flat.

Crown Counsel Miss Margaret Harriss prosecuted.

Miss Cheung was instructed by the Director of Legal Aid.

HONG KONG

JUDGE CRITICAL OF TRIAL PREPARATION

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 7 Jul 77 p 6

[Text

A High Court judge yesterday commented, at the conclusion of a trial, that it was one of the worst prepared cases by the police he had come across in his 27 years' legal service.

Mr Justice Morley-John made the comment after sentencing a 33-year-old man, Kowk Wai, to eight years imprisonment for possession of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

A jury of five men and two women, after deliberating for more than one hour, found Kwok guilty of the charge on a majority vote of five to two.

Originally, Kwok was also charged, together with Ip Wang-kwong (28) and a woman, Pak Yuen-ling (32), with conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs.

After 11 days of hearing the Crown withdrew the conspiracy charge.

Ip and Pak were therefore freed while Kwok remained on trial on the possession charge.

When Pak was acquitted,

her counsel, Mr Nicholas Pirie, asked for costs.

But Mr Justice Morley-John said he had no authority to award costs.

Among the prosecution witnesses called was a police officer who posed as a buyer of drugs.

Kwok was arrested on December 9 last year in a Kowloon restaurant when he handed over two blocks of morphine to the officer.

Kwok, however, said in his defence testimony that he negotiated with the "buyer" over jadestones and not dangerous drugs.

He said he was acting on behalf of jade dealers, hoping to earn a commission.

On December 9 he was given some samples, which he thought were jadestones, by a friend to show to the buyer.

He did not know the samples were morphine.

Mr Alan Hoo defended Kwok on the instructions of W. I. Cheung and Co.

Crown Counsel Roger Stanbury prosecuted.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

JUNK MASTER IS ACQUITTED

Inspector Details Opium Seizure

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Jul 77 p 11

[Text]

Forty sacks of raw opium and salts of esters of morphine, which had a retail value of \$98 million at the time of the seizure, were exhibited in the High Court yesterday at the trial of a junk master for possession of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

The drugs, consisting of 1,482 kilo of raw opium and 109.37 kilo of a mixture of salts of esters of morphine, were allegedly seized from the cargo junk belonging to Leung Sze-kan (48).

Leung pleaded not guilty to possessing the drugs for unlawful trafficking and is

being tried before Mr Justice Morley-John and a jury.

Inspector Tam Chung-shing of the Narcotics Bureau testified that acting on information he and four other officers in plainclothes saw a cargo junk berthing at Tsing Yi Island on May 25, last year.

At 8.30 pm the junk sailed off and was seen making a rendezvous with a trawler.

About 20 minutes later they separated and the junk continued to sail towards Kowloon along Rambler Channel.

When it reached a point about 200 yards off Kwai

Chung container wharf, Inspector Tam said, his party sailed up, revealed their identity and ordered the junk to stop.

However, the junk sailed on, but the officers managed to climb on board.

A search of the junk was then conducted and it was found that four ropes were hanging into the water from the port side.

When the ropes were lifted, 40 gunny sacks were raised from the sea.

Inspector Tam also said that he found eight new wooden crates on the junk.

Hearing continues today.

Judge Gives Advice on Legal Aid

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Jul 77 p 9

[Text]

A High Court judge yesterday suggested a junk master seek advice from the Legal Aid Department about possible compensation for his junk which was damaged while being detained by the Government.

Mr Justice Morley-John also expressed regret that Leung Sze-kan (43) had been detained since May last year, adding that he had no way of compensating him.

He set Leung free after a jury found him not guilty of possessing \$98 million worth of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

It was a re-trial ordered by the Court of Appeal following an appeal by Leung.

In December last year, Leung, his wife, Kwok Tai-hei (41), and a labourer, Kwok Kai (52), stood trial before another judge and jury.

Both Leung and Kwok Kai were found guilty and sentenced to jail for 11 and 15

years respectively, while Kwok Tai-hei was acquitted.

The Court of Appeal dismissed Kwok Kai's appeal against conviction and sentence, and ordered a re-trial for Leung because of an error in his trial.

Leung had maintained that he had no knowledge that the goods he was asked to transport were dangerous drugs.

He claimed that Kwok Kai, who came to hire his junk in May last year, told him that he was to tow some cloth remnants to Kun Tong.

The drugs — 1,482 kilograms of raw opium and 109.37 kilograms of mixture of salts of esters of morphine — were in 40 sacks which were suspended in the water by a rope from the side of Leung's junk, when police raided it on May 25 last year.

Yesterday, the jury deliberated for 1½ hours before returning a unanimous verdict of not guilty.

Mr Christopher Mumford defended Leung on the instructions from the Director of Legal Aid.

Crown Counsel Miss Margaret Harris prosecuted.

HONG KONG

HK\$6.4 MILLION IN DRUGS SEIZED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Jul 77 p 10

[Text]

Drugs worth more than \$6.4 million were seized yesterday by the Preventive Service and the Narcotics Bureau.

Preventive Service officers carried out a routine examination on a suitcase which was left unclaimed after it arrived on a flight from Bangkok on Tuesday night.

The suitcase was found to be packed with drugs.

There was one pound of No 4 (almost pure) heroin valued at \$136,800 and 15 "999" blocks of morphine weighing about 45 pounds.

The morphine blocks could produce 135 pounds of No 3 heroin which would retail for about \$6,156,000 on the local market.

No one has been arrested but the Preventive Service is making a thorough check of the passenger lists and baggage records to trace the owner of the suitcase.

Meanwhile, after weeks of investigations, Narcotics Bureau detectives yesterday launched an operation in North Kowloon and seized \$116,000 worth of No 3 heroin and arrested two men aged 31 and 39.

Four teams of Bureau detectives went out early yesterday and raided six addresses along with a drug-sniffing dog, Major.

Two-and-a-half pounds of heroin weighing 2½ lbs was seized at one of the addresses.

Sources said the Bureau is pursuing several leads that may result in a second and larger seizure.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

GOVERNMENT REVEALS PLAN FOR HALF-WAY HOUSES

New Center for Drug Addicts

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Jul 77 p 8

[Text]

The Government plans to build more half-way houses for drug addicts who are released from drug addiction treatment centres, but who still need close guidance.

The Secretary for Security, Mr Lewis Davies, said this in reply to Dr Harry Fang.

The Secretary said a project for such a half-way house to accommodate 120 inmates is included in the

Public Works Programme.

He said he hopes it will be ready by 1980.

In reply to another question from Dr Fang, he said the project was originally due for upgrading in 1974 but it got caught at that time by the financial restrictions.

Mr Davies said he will try to investigate the possibility of using accommodation in public housing estates for such half-way houses.

Half-way House Plan Welcome

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Jul 77 p 8

[Text]

A drug addiction treatment expert yesterday welcomed the Government's plan to build more half-way houses for addicts released from treatment centres who still need close guidance.

The Superintendent of Social Service of the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts (SARDA), Mr James Chien, said this is a very encouraging move.

He pointed out that half-way houses are "very

essential links" for rehabilitated addicts before they re-enter the community.

Half-way houses offer transitory residence to addicts, where they learn to readjust, he said.

Mr Chien said at least three more half-way houses are needed.

He said the Hongkong Christian Service has obtained donations from Germany to operate a half-way house with 25 beds in the Homantin area.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

SHOEMAKER GETS BAIL--One of four alleged members of a major international drug trafficking syndicate was yesterday allowed bail by Mr Paul Corfe at Central Court. Lam Wah, alias Lam Wah-kwan (48), shoemaker, was allowed bail of \$5,000 cash and a surety of \$10,000 on condition that he report twice daily to the Mongkok Police Station. The other three defendants are Tung Kam-hon (31) alias Ho Pak, Wong Fei-hung (38) alias Ah Ho unemployed, and Chan Ming-fai (26) alias Ning Hon, all unemployed. The four are charged with conspiring together and with others unknown to traffick in dangerous drugs--salts of esters of morphine--between 13 and 17 June. The defendants are alleged to have been involved in a major international syndicate in neighbouring countries and smuggle it to Europe. Mr Corfe adjourned the case until 30 June and remanded the other defendants in police custody.
[Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 23 Jun 77 p 9]

THREE COMMITTED FOR TRIAL--One of the four people charged with importing and dealing in acetic anhydride was discharged by a Central Court magistrate, Mr Wayne Wilson, at the end of committal proceedings against them. He was Tsang Hong-tong (52), a ship's chief steward. The three other defendants--Kow Tuck-lee (27), cook, Lo Yoke-tai (28), restaurant manager, and Wan Swi-eng (26), woman cashier--were committed for trial. They are charged with importing and dealing in 1,000 kilos of acetic anhydride on board the Tai-pooshek on 27 April. It is alleged that the consignment seized was valued at \$1.7 million and could be used to manufacture heroin with a street value of \$400 million. Kow and Lo were each granted bail of \$5,000 cash plus a surety of the same amount, while Wan's bail was fixed at \$5,000 on her own recognisance and a surety of \$5,000. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Jun 77 p 9]

CRIPPLE CAUGHT WRAPPING MORPHINE--A cripple was wrapping packets of morphine on a staircase landing last May when he was arrested by police, a Victoria District Court judge heard yesterday. Lee Ming (49), herbalist, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment by Judge Bewley for possessing 14.3 grams of a mixture containing 4.9 grams of salts of asters of morphine, worth about

\$900 in the retail market, for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. The court was told that, acting on information, police arrested Lee at 17 Connaught Road West on 31 May. Twenty-three packets of morphine were found on him. Lee claimed the drug was for easing the pain of his crippled leg. Crown Counsel Mr Nick Adams prosecuted. Mr Tont Wui-tung defended Lee on the instructions of the Director of Legal Aid. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 5 Jul 77 p 8]

MORPHINE WRAPPED IN NEWSPAPER--A 40-year-old mahjong school employee was yesterday sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment by Judge Bewley at Victoria District Court for a drug offence. Chan Tak-shing was convicted of possessing 143.4 grams of a mixture containing 43.7 grams of salts of asters of morphine, worth about \$9,000 on the retail market, for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. The court was told that police kept watch on 16 Choi Hung Street, Wong Tai Sin, on 1 April, and about 1630 hours Chan was seen receiving a packet wrapped in newspaper from a man. In mitigation, Mr G. B. Gunston said Chan earned only about \$1,500 a month and had to support a wife and two children. He was not the chief operator in the drug traffic, Mr Gunston added. Crown Counsel Gilbert Rodway prosecuted. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 5 Jul 77 p 8]

CSO: 5300

JAPAN

BRIEFS

STIMULANT SMUGGLING RING--Tokyo, 10 August--Police announced the arrest of two men Wednesday and were searching for a third in connection with the mass smuggling of stimulants from Hong Kong to Japan. Two kilograms of stimulants with an estimated street value of 600 million yen were seized. Kiyotami Miyazaki, 41, unemployed, and Koichi Masuda, 41, a jeweler, were arrested while Hitoshi Fukuda, 41, also unemployed, was placed on the wanted list. Masuda allegedly bought stimulants smuggled by Miyazaki for Fukuda, who paid the commissions of 7 million yen for each kilogram smuggled. Miyazaki confessed to smuggling 9 kilograms of stimulants with an estimated street value of 2.7 billion yen into Japan on nine occasions since last February. Police began investigating Miyazaki's activities in April after a gangster was caught for possessing 13 grams of stimulants he claimed to have bought from Miyazaki. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT 10 Aug 77 OW]

CSO: 5300

LAOS

BRIEFS

REHABILITATED ADDICTS RELEASED--After undergoing a period of reeducation training and tempering into new people for the bright, new society at the Don Thao and Don Nang reeducation centers, 334 former drug addicts from the old regime have become good people and been released to play a part in the work of their nation and to serve as good citizens. Only eight addicts are still undergoing reeducation at Don Thao and Don Nang. Somboun, chief of the Citizens Administration Department, Ministry of Interior, War Veterans, and Social Affairs, told reporters that among those released, some will return to work with their families at their own homes, but that most will be going to take part in the work of the state. The state has built living facilities for those who do not want to go elsewhere at Kilometer 62. This is Ban Sivit Mai [New Life Village]. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 14 Jun 77 p 1]

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SEVEN SUSPECTS IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS RING CAPTURED

Taipei LIEN-HA PAO in Chinese 24 Mar 77 p 3

[Text] Taipei--During the last 6 months, the Criminal Police Bureau, acting on information received, have broken an international narcotics ring operating in Southeast Asia. Two of the seven suspects were apprehended by police when they quietly returned to Taiwan and were handed over to the Taipei District Attorney for prosecution.

This narcotics ring used the Japanese freighter, TAIYORIKU-MARU, to bring narcotics from Bangkok to Hong Kong. Taiwan Hai-ching [3189 3237] Transportation Company was the agent for this ship.

According to police investigation, the seven suspects were: Board Chairman Ko Li-chuan [2688 2746 1557] (age 37) and General Manager Hsu Kai-chin [1776 7030 3830] (age 42) of the Hai-ching Company; Captain Hsu Chao-ching [6079 2600 3237] (age 34), First Officer Kao Hang [7559 5300] (age 33), Second Officer Lin Shou-te [2651 1108 1795] (age 40), and Seaman Hsia-Ming-li [1115 2494 0448] (age 32) of the TAIYORIKU-MARU and overseas, Thai Lin Shao-po [2651 1421 3134] (age 40).

Among them, Hsu Chao-ching and Kao Hang were apprehended by Hong Kong police and were sentenced to 12 years in jail; Hsu Kai-chin and Lin Shou-te were arrested when they returned to Taiwan; and Ko Li-chuan, Lin Shao-po, and Hsia Ming-li escaped.

The sphere of activities of this narcotics ring was not limited to Taiwan. Since the suspects are all citizens of our nation, the second group of the first investigation team in the Criminal Police Bureau, upon getting the information, immediately took vigorous action and eventually broke the case after half a year.

According to police investigation, Ko Li-chuan had worked as a seaman for over 10 years. In December the year before last, he rented from Japan the TAIYORIKU-MARU and established the Hai-ching Company for smuggling narcotics in Southeast Asia. Ko Li-chuan and Hsu Kai-chin always flew to wherever the ship called.

In August last year, Ko Li-chuan and the others colluded with Lin Shao-po in transporting narcotics. Lin supplied the narcotics and Ko brought them by car to the dock and then by boat to the TAIYORIKU-MARU. Narcotics were loaded in three large bamboo baskets covered with fruit as camouflage. When the narcotics reached the ship, they were quickly separated and hidden in secret compartments. As soon as the ship anchored in Hong Kong harbor, Hong Kong police immediately acted on a confidential report, and a search party boarded the ship. They first captured from the water tank 93 pounds of opium, 65 pounds of number three heroin, four pounds of number four heroin, and five morphine bricks. The Hong Kong police then also found over 100 pounds of narcotics in a rubber boat near the bridge.

At that time, Hong Kong police transferred Hsu Chao-ching, Kao Hang, Lin Shou-te, and Hsia Ming-li to the court. They persistently claimed their innocence. The judge, however, regarded Captain Hsu Chao-ching as responsible for all matters of the ship and First Officer Kao Hang as responsible for all matters above deck, and, as such, sentenced them to 12 years of imprisonment. Lin Shou-te and Hsia Ming-lei were released for lack of evidence.

The Criminal Police Bureau in our country quickly learned of clues to the activities of this narcotics ring. Bureau Chief Tsao Chi [2580 2817] ordered the Second Group of the First Investigation Team to gather information and conduct an investigation. When Hsu Kai-chin returned to the country, police on the case interviewed him, but he ascribed the responsibility to Ko Li-chuan. Police then sought Ko Lin-chuan and discovered that he, soon after the case broke, used a pseudonym "Ko Hsien-tsai" [2688 6343 2088] and a falsified Thai passport to return to Taiwan. He was discovered by examiners at Taipei International Airport and sent to the Taipei district attorney for prosecution on suspicion of falsifying a document. Since released on bail, he has evaded the charge. After many days of investigation, the police eventually learned of the situation and also gathered convincing evidence to arrest Hsu Kai-chin and another suspect Lin Shou-te, who had also sneaked back to Taiwan.

Through international criminal police organizations, the Criminal Police Bureau has notified police in various Southeast Asian countries to apprehend Lin Shao-po and TAIYORIKU-MARU seaman Hsia Ming-li. Meanwhile, by way of "Number 8 sub-line," all police organizations in Taiwan have been alerted to capture Ko Li-chuan.



Photos of Five of the Seven Suspects in the International Narcotics Ring Broken by the Criminal Police Bureau: Ko Li-chuan (Upper Right). Hsu Kai-chin (Lower Right), Kao Hang (Upper Left), Lin Shou-te (Middle Left), and Hsia Ming-li (Lower Left).

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CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT ON DRUG CHARGE

Taipei LIEN-HO PAO in Chinese 2 Apr 77 p 6

[Text] Taipei-Shih Chiu-jung [2457 4428 2837], a 27 year old male accused of the continuous use and sale of narcotics, was sentenced by the Taipei District Court yesterday to life imprisonment and deprived of public rights for life. His coinhabitant Chen Hsiu-chu [7115 4423 5468] was accused of using narcotics and sentenced to 3 years imprisonment. Another accused who used narcotics, Kuo Fu-san [6753 1381 0005], was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment.

The statement of the prosecution pointed out that Shih Chiu-jung (in custody) used morphine himself and also supplied narcotics to his co-inhabitant Chen Hsiu-chu (age 22, in custody).

On 11 January last year, suspect narcotics user, Kuo Fu-san, went to Shih Chiu-jung's home to buy morphine from him, and was caught by the police. Three small packages of narcotics was found on the body of Kuo Fu-san. Also discovered in the residence of Shih Chiu-jung were one large package and 53 small packages of morphine, and in Chen Hsiu-chu's handbag nine small packages of narcotics.

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CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

DRUGS SEIZED, SUSPECTS APPREHENDED BY POLICE

Suspects Arrested

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 7 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] From this newspaper--First-class rogue Ku Chun-Chi [0657 2504 0679] had stored narcotics in his home. Taipei Municipal Criminal Police Bureau yesterday dispatched a large number of policemen to search and apprehend on the spot four suspects who were there to purchase narcotics. They also captured a large quantity of narcotics.

A Taipei municipal criminal police inspection team received a confidential report and dispatched a large number of policemen at 4:10 yesterday afternoon to number 1 at Lane 28, Tung-an Street, to conduct a search. The house was the residence of Ku Chun-chi, a first-class rogue with a record of offenses, and was reported to be a purchase point for narcotics addicts.

When the police arrived on the spot, they discovered four men visiting in the house. When the four saw the police, they immediately took up knives and rasps and attempted to resist arrest. However, since the police had been alerted and were well prepared, the four gave up and meekly succumbed to arrest.

Afterward, police came upon a total of 22 large and small packages of heroin in Ku Chun-chi's bedroom, two bottles of Mei-na [5019 4780] water, and some injection equipment. From the four suspects, Chen Wen-chi [7115 2429 0679], Liu Pei-ken [0491 1014 2704], Su Chin-chu [5685 5885 0504], and Lin Ching-tu [2651 3237 3248], the police also captured a sharp knife and a flat rasp, and 8,800 yuan for purchasing narcotics. Rogue Ku Chum-chi, however, was not home. He might have been tipped off and escaped. Police are looking for him.

Chiu Ching-tu [6726 3237 0956] and Chao Chin-tsai [6392 6651 0956], who were accused of the repeated use and sale of narcotics, have had their sentences reduced, upon review of the Superior Court. The sentences passed upon the second hearing were: Chi Ching-tu sentenced to life imprisonment

and deprived of public rights for life; and Chao Chin-tsai sentenced to 17 years of imprisonment and deprived of public rights for 10 years.

Drug Dealer Attempts Suicide in Jail

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 8 Apr 77 p 3

[Excerpts] From this newspaper--Ku Chun-chi [0657 2504 0679], a narcotics dealer suspect apprehended on the afternoon of 6 April, yesterday afternoon attempted suicide by swallowing chopsticks in the Taipei Police Bureau's detention center. Discovered by police guards, he was sent to the Municipal Ho-ping Hospital for emergency treatment, but his condition has remained critical.

While police intended to transfer him to the court last night, he used chopsticks at dinner at 6:00 in a suicide attempt. Fortunately, the police promptly noticed his attempt and sent him to the Municipal Ho-ping Hospital for emergency treatment.

The municipal criminal police received information from citizens a few days ago, pointing out morphine injections given at number 1 at Lane 28, Tung-an Street. A police investigation verified that it was first class rogue, Ku Chun-chi's, residence. They then took a series of actions. First, a policeman disguised as a narcotic addict was sent as bait to purchase a package of narcotics. Laboratory tests subsequently proved the purchase to be heroin.

Formal action by the municipal criminal police team started at 4:10 on the afternoon of 6 April. After this initial success, the police brought the four suspects and the narcotics to police headquarters, but left some policemen behind to continue covert surveillance. Shortly afterward, Ku Chun-chi returned. When he sensed something strange, he quickly produced a knife and attempted to resist arrest. He was overpowered by police and subsequently admitted to selling narcotics.

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CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

COLLEGE STUDENTS SAID USING HALLUCINATORY DRUGS

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 13 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] From this newspaper--According to a survey, over 1 percent of college and higher institute students have had experience in the use of hallucinatory drugs, and 10 percent of them have friends who have used these drugs.

The CHING-HSING [7230 2622] magazine, published by the Medical College of Taiwan University, in a recent issue, carried survey results of a study conducted among 729 students in Taiwan University, Political University, Taipei Medical College, Tan-chiang College, Cultural College and Ming-chuan Commercial Institute, which showed that 1.23 percent of the students surveyed had personal experience in the use of hallucinatory drugs, but that most of them have not used the drugs more than once. Seventy percent of these gave "No fun" as the reason for not using drugs again.

Among those who had used hallucinatory drugs, nearly one half started to use the drugs because of "curiosity," and also nearly one half of them started taking the drugs after they entered college. Most of them were influenced by friends. Friends constituted a main source of supply of the hallucinatory drugs.

Among those surveyed, one-tenth disclosed that their friends have used hallucinatory drugs. From the projection on this figure, the extensive misuse of hallucinatory drugs is alarming. The survey also pointed out that one-third of those using hallucinatory drugs purchased the drugs from pharmacies.

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CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MAN SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR SELLING NARCOTICS

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 13 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] From this newspaper--Narcotics criminal Lin Chin-tsai [2651 6855 2088], was given a death sentence by the Taipei District Court yesterday for partnership in narcotics sales. He was also deprived of public rights for life. In the same case, another accused, Kao Cheng-tsung [7559 2973 1350], was sentenced to life imprisonment and deprived of public rights for life, and Yang Ping-hsuan [2799 3521 2467] was sentenced to limited imprisonment of 7 years.

The statement of judgment pointed out that the accused Lin Chin-tsai and Kao Cheng-tsung, both have committed these crimes before, have not reformed and have adversely affected public security by their extremely serious offense. In accordance with the "Regulations on Purging Opium Drugs During the Rebellion Suppression Period," they were given severe sentences to serve as warning examples.

The accused Lin Chin-tsai (age 49), Kao Cheng-tsung (age 35), and Yang Ping-hsuan (age 30) are all in custody. They are accused of repeatedly selling morphine. On the afternoon of 13 January this year, while they were engaged in the sale of narcotics in a vacant house located at 120 Wo-meい Street, Taipei, the police surprised them after an investigation. Lin Chin-tsai was on the lookout outside the door, pretending to be repairing a car.

After breaking the case, the Municipal Police Bureau presented it to the Taipei District Attorney for prosecution.

6693
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

DRUG MANUFACTURING, SELLING SUSPECTS ARRESTED, OTHER SUSPECTS ESCAPE

Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese 30 Jun 77 p 3

[Article: "Bureau of Investigation Nabs Narcotic Gang; Manufacturing and Selling the Illegal Drug Su-tz'u-k'ang; Three Suspects Taken Into Custody; Li Shih-tsung and Huang Chin-ch'i Escape and Are Being Sought"]

[Text] The Bureau of Investigation yesterday uncovered in Taipei a sizable gang of narcotics manufacturers and traders, together with a plant secretly manufacturing Su-tz'u-k'ang [6643 6337 1660]. Three of the main culprits have been arrested; two escaped. The case has been transferred to the prosecutor at the Taipei District Court for further investigation and action.

The arrested suspects are Lu Mei-chin [4151 5019 3866] (female, 330), Ch'en I-ming [7115 4135 2494] (30) and Wu Lien-sheng [0702 6647 3932] (30). After a nightlong interrogation, the public prosecutor Wu Tun-lien found the criminal evidence well-established and the criminal activities of serious danger to public safety. He therefore immediately ordered the suspects imprisoned.

The two men who fled are Li Shih-tsung [2621 0013 1350] and Huang Chin-ch'i [7806 6855 2630], the latter suspected of being a wholesale distributor. Officers of the Bureau of Investigation who are in charge of the case are at present searching for the two escapees.

The investigating officers seized on the spot 26,896 ampoules of Su-tz'u-k'ang, one kilo of the raw material p'an-t'a-tso-hsin [3382 0100 8143 2450], one complete set of manufacturing equipment and 500,000 empty ampoules and boxes. It is said to be the largest seizure of Su-tz'u-k'ang ever carried out by the public safety organs.

According to investigation, Lu Mei-chin, the captured suspect, is the wife of the main suspect, escapee Li Shih-tsung. As for the other two suspects, Ch'en I-ming is a taxi driver who was in charge of manufacturing, while Wu Lien-sheng was in charge of transportation and sales.

In February this year, when investigators found a man selling narcotics at Hou-kang 7th Street of Shih-lin ward, Taipei City, they secretly followed

up and soon established that Li Shih-tsung and his wife came under grave suspicion, but since there was no actual evidence, nothing could be done but to continue the surveillance and gather evidence. Into the month of May, there was still no result, but the investigators were unwilling to abandon the lead they had so far for their suspicions. Finally, one afternoon, it so happened that Mrs Li went out with a basket full of square boxes. She moved furtively. The investigators followed her to the bus stop at Yang-ming Kuo-chung, where Mrs Li secretly passed the boxes to another woman, who had been a habitual seller of the illicit drug Su-tz'u-k'ang. The investigators thereupon suspected that the two were possibly trading in illicit drugs, and more men were assigned to intensify the investigation.

At the beginning of this month, the Bureau of Investigation found that a tall slender man by the name of Ch'en I-ming frequently appeared at the Li residence. He also went to work in Taipei at No 53, third floor, Yen-p'ing Road North, Section 4. At the same time, a small delivery van from a certain glass factory often delivered empty ampoules to this place. Another suspicious place was No 13, second floor, Lane 429, Fu-yuan Street, where Li Shih-tsung, Lu Mei-chin, Ch'en I-ming, Wu Lien-sheng and others were seen moving goods packed in square boxes. At times many other people came to that place to take delivery of goods. As the investigators followed up on these people, they found many of them were proprietors or employees of Western-medicine pharmacies.

A few days ago, the Bureau of Investigation felt the time was ripe. Using undercover agents, they bought some of the square boxes and sent the suspicious ampoules in them for chemical analysis to the Bureau's laboratory, where it was established that they contained the illicit drug Su-tz'u-k'ang. Finally, on the 28th of this month, the Bureau launched a search of all the suspicious places. As a result they seized at No 53, Section 4, Yen-p'ing Street North, the complete plant and equipment of the secret factory that had been manufacturing Su-tz'u-k'ang. They also seized raw material and 16,496 ampoules of the product. At Wu Lien-sheng's residence at Fu-yuan Street they also found the storage place for the illicit drug and seized 10,400 ampoules of the illicit drug together with empty ampoules and boxes sufficient for the production of 500,000 doses. Furthermore, they found at Li Shih-tsung's residence a large quantity of suspicious chemicals and the account books recording the sale of Su-tz'u-k'ang.



The Bureau of Investigation yesterday nabbed a narcotics manufacturing gang, and seized on the spot a large batch of illicit drugs, raw material, and equipment (lower picture).

Three suspects Lu Mei-chin (upper right); Chen I-ming (upper middle); Wu Lien-sheng (upper left) already arrested

8453
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

OPIUM SMOKER SENTENCED FOR LIFE FOR SELLING NARCOTICS

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 22 May 77 p 3

[Article: "Narcotics Criminal Chang T'ien-ts'ung Receives Heavy Sentence"]

[Text] Chang T'ien-ts'ung, [1728 3240 1783] a criminal opium smoker, was accused of going from the use of narcotics to selling narcotics; his evil activities became widely known. The Taipei District Court sentenced him yesterday to life imprisonment and deprivation of civil rights for life.

In the verdict it is pointed out that the accused Chang T'ien-ts'ung (42, in custody), whose nickname is Jou-lo [5131 5828], started October 1975 to inject himself two or three times a day with morphine, each time using one or two packages. The persons from whom he bought the narcotics were, among others, Niu-shen under the bridge at Taipei, Wen-ch'ang of San-chung, Hei-lung of Lu-chou and Ch'en Chin-mu, under the bridge at Hua-chiang.

By December last year, when he could not afford the expense of his drug addiction, Chang T'ien-ts'ung thought of supplementing his income by selling narcotics. He furthermore employed Li Fang-tse to assist him in his crime. The case was discovered by the Bureau of Investigation on 28 December last year at Lu-chou, the residence of Chang T'ien-ts'ung; the case has been transferred to be dealt with according to law.

8453
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

CRIMINAL BUREAU'S ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK OUTLINED

Taipei CHUNG-YANG JIH-PAO in Chinese 6 Jun 77 p 3

[Article: "Our Country's Narcotics Suppression Work Shows Great Effectiveness in Its Coordination With the International Criminal Police Organization"]

[Text] Ts'ao Chi, Head of the Criminal Police Bureau, Office of Police Administration in the Ministry of Interior, yesterday gave the following talk: As regards our preventive measures to counter the plot of the communist bandits to poison the world with narcotics, we coordinate our country's efforts with the activities of the International Criminal Police Organization, and our close cooperation is very effective. Bureau Chief Ts'ao furthermore called upon all citizens to give serious attention to the question of juveniles inhaling fumes from powerful glues or of their wide and unrestrained use of Su-tz'u-k'ang [6643 6337 1660] and other addictive substances.

Bureau Chief Ts'ao was speaking to reporters on the occasion of yesterday's Anti-Opium Day, 3 June, and was explaining the results of our country's narcotics suppression as carried out during the last 10 years and our government's concrete measures intended to wipe out the traffic in narcotics. Bureau Chief Ts'ao pointed out that because of our government's strict anti-narcotics policy and the heavy penalties meted out to users and dealers of narcotics, and furthermore due to the extremely strict prosecution of narcotics cases by the competent public safety organs, the curse of opium and narcotics is not at all a serious domestic problem. Even beyond this, we have taken strict precautions against the possibility that the communist bandits use Taiwan as a transit depot for their exports of narcotics, we have done this to protect the free democratic countries. In this respect, the close coordination between the Criminal Affairs Bureau of our Police Administration and the International Criminal Police Organization has been immensely successful.

Within the last 10 years we have seized the following quantities of narcotics:

Heroin	13,919.21	grams
Opium	1,652.15	"
Codeine	17	"
Morphine Blocks	222	"
Marihuana	1,291.37	"

As to powerful glue, Su-tz'u-k'ang, hallucinogen drugs and other addictive substances, Bureau Chief Ts'ao said, these drugs are undoubtedly the opium of our youths, and their aftereffects are even worse than those of opium. Our government will prosecute and punish such cases with great severity, but also hopes that the great masses of our society will cooperate in warning and admonishing the youths and in denouncing any such evil habits.

On the occasion of yesterday's Anti-Opium Day, Wang Tao-yuan, minister of justice, also made a statement. On the one hand he emphasized that our law provides very severe penalties for narcotics offenses to discourage anyone from risking a violation of the law. On the other hand he called on all narcotics offenders to come forward voluntarily and to submit to withdrawal treatment; they may then benefit from the leniency of the law and be pardoned.

Although our antinarcotics efforts appear to be effective, Minister Wang pointed out that the communist bandits with their narcotics plot will stop at nothing and make use of every opportunity. If we want to rid ourselves completely of narcotics abuse, we must have not only all government organs increase their preventive measures, criminal investigations and prosecutions, but also hopefully have all our fellow-citizens raise their vigilance at all times. We cannot permit ourselves to relent the least bit. Every one of us must join in the effort to thoroughly eradicate the poisonous narcotics abuse to protect the health of our citizens.

The communist bandits will stop at nothing to carry out their scheme of poisoning us with narcotics. Our people must raise their vigilance!

8453
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

TAIPEI JUVENILE DRUG ADDICTS CONFINED FOR TREATMENT

Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese 7 Jul 77 p 3

[Text] The Taipei Municipal Government yesterday decided according to law that juvenile addicts of hallucinogenic drugs who are in danger of breaking the law, be sent to narcotics treatment centers for treatment.

The Taipei Municipal Government yesterday decided that juvenile addicts of opium or hallucinogenic drugs who are in danger of breaking the law be sent to narcotics treatment centers. The centers are to bear the cost of treatment. The following are the legal provisions on which the Municipal Government's decision was based:

--According to Article 2 of the Detailed Regulations for the Enforcement of the Regulations to Purge the Country of Opium and Narcotics During the Period of Mobilization for Rebel Suppression, "Measures against narcotic offenders are a responsibility of the local governments," and Article 5, paragraph 3, "Where no public hospitals or equivalent institutions exist, special narcotics treatment centers shall be established," an order was received from the Executive Yuan ordering Taipei Municipality to establish a narcotics treatment center and to handle the confinement and treatment of narcotics offenders. The costs shall be borne by the center from its annual budget.

--A letter from the Ministry of Justice advises that in the event juveniles are sent to narcotics treatment centers for treatment as a measure decreed in Article 42, paragraph 2, section 1, of the Law governing Proceedings against Juveniles, the costs arising from the treatment shall be part of the center's general treatment expenditure.

--Article 42, paragraph 2, section 1, of the Law governing Proceedings against Juveniles: In case a juvenile has become addicted to opium or narcotics or hallucinogenic drugs, or has become an alcoholic, he shall be ordered to enter an appropriate institution for withdrawal treatment.

8453
CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

STRICTER PUNISHMENT FOR NARCOTICS OFFENSES URGED

Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese 30 Jun 77 p 3

[Article: "Hallucinogenic Drugs Are of Deadly Harm to Our Juveniles; Sun Wu-k'ung Cannot Escape From Buddha's Grip; Illicit Drugs Can Yield Huge Profits; Evil Elements Take the Risk; To Curb the Evil Habit, Punishments Must be Increased"]

[Text] The Bureau of Investigation yesterday uncovered an illegal factory that had been secretly manufacturing the prohibited drug Su-tz'u-k'ang [6643 6337 1660]; large quantities of this illicit drug and the manufacturing equipment have been seized. Impounded account books reveal that this gang had been manufacturing and selling at least 200,000 ampoules of Su-tz'u-k'ang per month. It is so far the largest factory ever discovered by the public safety organs.

According to the account books discovered by the agents in charge of this case, the largest amount of Su-tz'u-k'ang sold by this narcotics gang in one day was 24,480 doses. In their past dealings they must have sold over 500,000 ampoules. Judging from the quantities of empty ampoules and boxes found at the factory, they were preparing to manufacture another 500,000 ampoules just at the time the factory was seized. Due to the timely discovery by our investigating organs, this large quantity of hallucinogenic drugs, which endangers the body and mind of our younger generation, was prevented from flowing into our society.

Su-tz'u-k'ang, also commonly called Sun Wu-k'ung [1327 1889 4500], is a strong narcotic. Those who take it experience hallucinations as if floating in the air and will even seduce other ignorant youths into joining in its secret use. In fact, the prohibited drug is extremely harmful. According to evidence in earlier cases, addicts when apprehended will often have their pants full of excrement and urine, which is clear evidence that the users of Su-tz'u-k'ang are unable to control excretion. Furthermore they become sexually stimulated and will easily be led to commit crimes.

The unlawful elements that manufacture and sell these kinds of illicit drugs are seldom users themselves. They know that the drugs are harmful, but they are enticed by the high profits to take great risks by their desperate actions. They injure and do harm to the physical and mental health of the young in order to reap their illicit profits.

According to the investigation of the authorities concerned, the raw material for the manufacture of Su-tz'u-k'ang, p'an-t'a-tso-hsin [3382 0100 8143 2450], is smuggled in from Hong Kong. In Hong Kong it sells for NT\$80,000 per kg. Due to the strict watch of the public safety organs, it is difficult to obtain on Taiwan and the price is therefore as high as NT\$300,000 per kg.

After being processed into Su-tz'u-k'ang, the price of each dose is NT\$6, but it is sold to the wholesalers at \$23 to \$27, and by the wholesaler to the retailer at NT\$35. By the time it reaches the person who uses it, it costs NT\$42. Under special circumstances the price may go up to \$60, \$80 and even at times \$120. These large profits are the main factor that entices unlawful elements to manufacture large quantities of Su-tz'u-k'ang.

Another reason for the flood of this drug is possibly that punishment of offenders is not severe. Because it is not ranked as a poisonous substance or as addictive, cases involving Su-tz'u-k'ang cannot be dealt with as opium or narcotics offenses. Manufacturers are merely punished as violating the law on control of medicines and medicine trade. As to those using the drug, they are dealt with as violating a police ordinance, a state of affairs which cannot possibly stop the habit.

The public safety organs realize the danger of Su-tz'u-k'ang to society. Recently, at a joint meeting of investigating and police organs this question was brought up for discussion and the meeting decided to investigate energetically and arrest all illegal gangs that manufacture Su-tz'u-k'ang. The seizure by the Bureau of Investigation of the large gang manufacturing and selling this drug, which is presently reported, is merely the beginning of strict action. In the future all public safety units will closely cooperate in launching continued investigations of all suspicious persons and factories.

8453
CSO: 5300

THAILAND

TWO SINGAPOREANS ARRESTED AT BANGKOK AIRPORT WITH 24 KILOS OF HEROIN

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 24 Jul 77 p 1 BK

[Text] Twenty-four kilogrammes of No 3 heroin were seized yesterday at Don Muang Airport and customs officials' suspicion was confirmed. The 24 ginseng boxes alerted the officials who had always seen ginseng being imported--and not exported.

Two Singaporeans were arrested with the haul, estimated to be worth about 1 baht in the local market.

Tan Aik Khoon, 53, and Soh Boon Seng, 52, were scheduled to leave Bangkok for Taiwan on the Thai International flight No TG-600 at noon when the customs officials asked to check the boxes bearing "ginseng brand."

Don Muang customs chief, Anan Pananon, said that yesterday's seizure was one of the biggest ever found at the airport.

The 24.25 kilogrammes of No 3 heroin were neatly packed in the "ginseng" boxes.



CSO: 5300

THAILAND

HEROIN SUSPECTS TO BE TRIED IN COURT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jul 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Article 21 of the Constitution will not be used against three accused drug traffickers, Phibun Sae Thang, (left), Mrs Suri Songcharden, (center) and Somsak Udomchaisap (right) who were arrested 31 May by Chana Songkhram police, with almost 4 kilograms of No 4 heroin.

An official source reported yesterday that the prime minister's Legal Advisory Board, after thoroughly studying into the case proposed by the Interior Ministry to use Article 21 against the three suspects decided that evidence collected by police is "strong enough" to prove their guilt in the regular court procedure.

"They will be definitely punished by the court," the source confirmed.
"Police have ample evidence to prove their guilt."

The three suspects were arrested earlier by Chana Songkhram police in a house on Wisutkasat Road in Bang Khun Prom area.

The three natives of Lampang and Chiang Rai Provinces initially admitted to police interrogators that the drug had been brought down from the Mae Sai District of Chiang Rai for buyers in Bangkok.



Left to right: Phibun Sae Thang, Mrs Suri Songcharoen and Somsak Udomchaisap

THAILAND

NEW NARCOTICS COURT TO BE ESTABLISHED

Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 2 Aug 77 p 6 BK

[Editorial: "Narcotics Court for Bangkok"]

[Excerpt] The Justice Ministry is planning to establish a new court of law to be called a narcotics court. This is the first time that such a court will be set up in Thailand.

As the name suggests, the new court will have to do with lawsuits involving not only narcotics addicts but also traffickers. Thus, the plan is indicative of the fact that illegal drug-related activities are one of Thailand's serious problems.

The ministry is right to have conceived the plan. As is generally recognized, persons accused of being involved in narcotics activities, especially addicts, should be tried in court as soon as possible, so that they will be sent for treatment in due course. Although under the present judicial system, narcotics addicts can be tried in an ordinary law court, usually the legal action takes quite a long time before a final judgement is passed, as the court has a heavy case load. So a special court is needed to solve the problem.

As to smugglers, although Article 21 of the Constitution can be invoked to punish them offhand, there are also many offenders whose wrongdoing is not so serious as to deserve the application of Article 21. These petty defenders, too, should be tried in a special court.

According to the under secretary of state for justice, the narcotics court, which will be established by a ministerial rule, will have the status of a section of the criminal court, but if the plan proves successful, the court could be elevated to the status of an independent institution through legislation.

The plan does not call for the appointment of judges who have specialised in narcotics. Qualified lawyers will be appointed and the services of a specialist will be sought when necessary.

The first narcotics court will be located in the vicinity of Lat Yao prison, Bangkok. There is no plan to set up a similar court upcountry.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

OPIUM FROM BURMESE KAREN--Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary-general of the Narcotics Suppression Centre, said yesterday he would protest if the United States Government brought opium from the Burmese Karen. Another source said the United States planned to buy the opium. Gen Bo Mya, president of the Independent Karen Group who controls the Karen National Union Unit, was appointed to represent the Karen. Gen Bo Mya sent a letter to President Carter on 20 April to propose the U. S. buy opium from the Karen for 5 years. He said he wanted money to support his forces and if President Carter did not buy the opium, he would sell it to the Communist Party of Burma and might join the Communist Party. Gen Bo Mya, along with the Shan State Army and Maj Gladstone and Maj Mawel of the Karen, met with U. S. Senator Lester Wolff in Phattaya recently. [Text] [Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 2 Aug 77 p 1 BK]

GOLDEN TRIANGLE ANTINARCOTICS DRIVE--Mae Hong Son--A crack Border Patrol Police [BPP] and Provincial Police force yesterday launched a suppression operation to crack down on illicit narcotics trafficking in the northern mountains of the Golden Triangle, an authoritative source said yesterday. The source said that 30 fully-armed crack BPP troopers were ferried from the Dara Ratsami BPP barracks in Chiang Mai to the 105th Headquarters in Ban Pang Mu, Pai District, in three helicopters at about 0900 A.M. yesterday. The BPP troopers were to rendezvous with the 5th Platoon of Pai District police to start the operation. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Aug 77 p 3 BK]

CONFISCATION OF COOKED OPIUM--Lampang--A 19-year-old girl was arrested earlier this week with 3 kg of cooked opium hidden on her body at Lampang's ETO bus terminal. Acting on a tip-off, Lampang police searched the belongings of Miss Thongphian Fuwut while she was about to board a bus. Three kg of cooked opium was found hidden on her body. Earlier last week, Thongphian's mother, Mrs Thongbai was arrested on the same charge. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Aug 77 p 5 BK]

SENTENCING ON HEROIN CHARGES--The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced four heroin traffickers on charges of possessing and attempting to sell 1.75 kg of No 4 heroin. The four men, Wichai Fuangsuwan, Sombun Suksathit, Put Kiatubon and Petty Officer Banthoeng Chuchat were nabbed by narcotics

suppression police on 4 September 1975 with the heroin found hidden in a Datsun taxi. The court decided to reduce the sentence against Wichai, Sombun and Put after they pleaded guilty from 24 to 12 years imprisonment. Petty Officer Banthoeng, who fought the case to the end, got 24 years jail term after the court found him guilty as charged. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Aug 77 p 3 BK]

NARCOTICS, OTHER NEW COURTS--A drug court will be set up this month in the grounds of Lat Yao Prison in Bangkok to expedite drug cases and to relieve the workload of the Criminal Court, the Under Secretary of State for Justice Mr Siri Athiphoti said yesterday. In the first stage, there will be six courtrooms for drug cases and the drug court will be considered a department of the criminal court. If the plan works well, a bill will be presented to establish a separate drug court, Mr Siri said. The Justice Ministry already has submitted to the cabinet a draft ministerial regulation to set up a drug court. [Text] [Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 1 Aug 77 p 1 BK]

GOVERNMENT-ORGANIZED DRUG SEMINAR--Secretary general of the Narcotics Suppression and Prevention Board Pramuk Sawatdimongkhon informed newsmen of the results of the successful 26-28 July seminar on the treatment of addicts organized by the board at the Priests Hospital. In particular, it was proposed that the private sector and the government cooperate in treating addicts, meaning that private health facilities would be permitted, within the limits of the law, to accept addicts for treatment. Private health clinics which do not have facilities to hold addicts overnight are not included, since it might not be possible to control patients who are given substitute drugs which are in themselves addictive. Pramuk said that the doctors participating in the seminar also proposed that more treatment facilities be set up and that the several existing treatment methods be standardized. This proposal for a standardized method will have to be studied by the treatment and mental rehabilitation subcommittee. The seminar also urged that facilities using traditional methods of treatment be quickly made to conform with the Medical Treatment Facility Act and the Act on the Control of the Art of Healing. In addition, an agreement was reached on coordination among doctors using modern treatment methods and those using traditional methods. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 30 Jul 77 BK]

HEROIN TO BE BURNED--The Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Board will burn the 284 kilograms of heroin confiscated from drug traffickers on 22 August at the shooting range of the Royal Thai 1st Army Command. The date to burn the heroin was postponed from the earlier scheduled 11 August. At 7:30 a.m. on August 22, 284 kilograms of heroin will be transported from the Food and Medicine Control Division of the Public Health Ministry to the burning spot at the shooting range of the Royal Thai 1st Army Command, in front of 11th Infantry Regiment, on Pahonyothin Road, Bang Khen District. After arriving at the burning spot at about 9:30 a.m. the subcommittee responsible for burning the heroin will make a test on the heroin again before destroying it at about 11 a.m. The 284 kilograms of heroin to be burned was confiscated between 1974-75 and impounded after the courts passed judgments on the cases. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Aug 77 p 5 BK]

SERGEANT ARRESTED FOR TRAFFICKING--An Air Force master sergeant was arrested yesterday while he was about to hand over 600 grams of No. 4 heroin to customers in Soi Phiphat, off Silom Road. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Aug 77 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5300

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Police of Buenos Aires' Third Precinct have arrested three drug traffickers and seized approximately 20 kg of cocaine. The traffickers are Hector Eduardo Ismael Cuallo, alias "Pocho," Argentine, 46; Teresa Amalia Engler, alias "La Jocketta," Argentine, 36; and Roberto Fontan, alias "Buseca," who is a gangster with a long record. According to the prisoners they got their drugs from someone called "Coco" who came from Mendoza. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Jul 77 PY]

BRITON ARRESTED--Rosario, 2 Aug--Misiones Province Police have arrested 19-year-old Briton Thomas Harry Verney, who was in possession of 4 kg of heroin, morphine pills and liquid hallucinogens. Verney was trying to enter the country with the load of drugs through Puerto Iguazu, where he was arrested. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1448 GMT 2 Aug 77 PY]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

PIRATE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN CARTAGENA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Jul 77 p 9-A

[Article by Narciso Castro Y.]

[Text] Cartagena, 30 Jun. A gang specializing in maritime piracy and drug trafficking was broken up today by police in action resulting in the wounding of four persons, among them one of the gang members.

The F-2 commander, Capt Benildo Torres Torres, directed the operation, in which 10 persons were captured. Agents also confiscated four sticks of dynamite, a 38-caliber revolver, 1 pound of marihuana, an acetylene tool for converting vessels and a taxi with registration plates UA-0150. Col Octavio Vargas Silva, chief of the Bolivar division of the National Police, stated in a press release that those captured not only practiced piracy against ships anchored in the bay of Cartagena, but also trafficked in substantial quantities of drugs.

The F-2 patrol directed by Captain Torres Torres had received instructions to proceed against the suspects, who were living at 54-24 Las Americas Street in the Bosque district, and the mass arrests took place there.

First the detectives entered the building and arrested several of its occupants, rendering them ineffective; then they awaited the arrival of the taxi carrying the others, who were also arrested.

Police said that during the second part of the operation German Emilio Padilla, alias German Estacio Padilla, alias "Lucho," tried to escape, using a gun in the attempt. The detectives fired on him, striking him in the chest and abdomen. However, he is recuperating at University Hospital here. Three bystanders, not involved in the action, were also wounded. They were Alvaro de Avila Altamiranda, Eliecer Cervantes Cardales and Francisco Vega Martinez.

Those arrested, in addition to the man wounded, are Ildefonso Cardales Cortes, Ceferino Gomez Vargas, Jose Eustacio Estrada Puello, Juniors Aguilar Ally, Jose Felix Angulo Quinones, Edy Orlando Mata Sanchez, Alfredo Machacon Cabana, Cristobal Martinez Zuniga, Marcelino Machacon Cabana and Luis Eduardo Cortes Garcia.

8735

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

THREE MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS RAIDED--Authorities yesterday struck another blow at narcotics pushers in this country when they discovered three more large marihuana plantations and arrested more than 60 persons involved. Police sources confirmed to EL SIGLO that the raids were carried out in the northern part of the country, specifically in the departments of Cesar, Magdalena and Guajira. The first operation took place on the San Genaro highway in Valledupar, where 10 shipments and 380 shrubs of marihuana were impounded. Those arrested there were Alejandro Trullordi, Jose Aurelio Saavedra, Jorge Sanchez Barragan, Andres Estrada Arango, Ricardo Arroyo, Alfredo Olaya, Vidal Alfonso Gomez, Gumercindo Pites, Uvaldo Mejia, Jose Coneo Pacheco, Julio Benjamin Yepes, Albeiro Sanchez, Eliecer Soto Machado, Bernardo Orozco and Orlando Arevalo Cuevas. In other action, at "La Providencia" ranch near Fundacion, a 3-hectare plantation was discovered, and Jose del Carmen Galvis and Jacinto Rios Caceres, among others, were arrested, since they were in charge. Finally, in Mingueo, Guajira, 3,800 pounds of marihuana were confiscated and 42 persons arrested who were known to be linked to its traffic and cultivation. It is worthy of note that these narcotics traffickers had a regular arsenal of weapons, consisting of Mauser .30's, rifles and revolvers. In addition, they had a special press for processing and packing marihuana. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 1 Jul 77 p 1] 8735

JUDGE SANCTIONED IN MARIHUANA PLANE CASE--Barranquilla, 30 Jun (Editorial Office). The Superior Court here has sanctioned the Second Criminal Circuit judge, Edilberto Altamar, with a 30 day suspension for irregularities committed in the proceedings against members of the crew of an Aerosucre plane loaded with marihuana which crashed in Kansas, United States. The official had freed the pilot, Roberto Lopez; the co-pilot, Rafael Visbal and assistant Walter Olarte because it was alleged that the crew members had been kidnapped, along with the plane, and later set free somewhere in Guajira. New investigations and documents linked with the case, as well as information from the United States, indicated that the plane belonging to the firm in question was never kidnapped, and therefore its crew must answer charges of trafficking in drugs. A week ago Judge Altamar again issued a warrant for the arrest of Lopez, Visbal and Olarte, in order to follow the normal procedure in the case. The Superior Court of the capital of Atlantico, after a thorough study of the case, decided to sanction the judge by suspending him for a month. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 1 Jul 77 p 1] 8735

MARIHUANA GROWERS IN NORTH SANTANDER--A police patrol discovered a marihuana plantation and arrested two persons in connection with its cultivation in the course of operations in the department of North Santander, according to reports received yesterday from official sources. The discovery of the marihuana plantation was made Thursday afternoon at a ranch known as "El Jordan," located on the Manzanares highway under the jurisdiction of the city of Chinacota. During a thorough search of the location mentioned, police agents turned up 459 shrubs under cultivation, said a spokesman. Captured at "El Jordan" ranch were Julio Cesar Salazar Guerrero and his wife, Ana de Salazar Penal, who were cultivating the marihuana. The couple was turned over to a judge of criminal proceedings, who will take charge of the preliminary investigation to ascertain whether others are involved in this plantation. The arrests mark a successful week in the struggle against narcotics traffickers, authorities having discovered several marihuana plantations in the departments of Cesar, Magdalena and Guajira. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 2 Jul 77 p 3] 8735

MARIHUANA PLANTATION NEAR VALLEDUPAR--Valledupar, 2 Jul. Police today confiscated a huge marihuana plantation valued at 15 million pesos, and arrested 15 persons in the act of harvesting it. The 10-hectare plantation, containing 380,000 shrubs in production was located on the "San Genaro" ranch owned by Ramon Beltran Orozco. The ranch is in the Perija Mountains. The men arrested at the ranch were identified as Alejandro Truyoll Gette, Donaldo Delegado Ortiz, Jose Aurelio Saavedra, Jorge Sanchez Barragan, Andres Antonio Estrada, Ricardo Segundo Arroyo Ospino, Hidalgo Alfonso Gomez, Gumersindo Vides Gamez, Ubaldo Mejia Montesino, Jose Coneo Pacheco, Albeiro Rendon Sanchez, Eliecer Soto Machado, Bernardo Orozco, Julio Benjamin Yepes and Alfredo Manuel Oyola. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Jul 77 p 4-B] [Article by Infante Moreno] 8735

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

PJF CAPTURED 10 TONS OF MARIHUANA, ARMS, 14 PLANTERS

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jul 77 p 4-B

[Article by EL DIARIO's correspondent]

[Text] Monterrey, N. L.--PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents and members of the army arrested 14 communal farmers of the region near Galeana, Nuevo Leon. For some time, they had planted marihuana. Several hectares of marihuana were destroyed.

Yesterday morning under several PJF group commanders and officers of the 10th Infantry Battalion, 7th Military Zone, a contingent of crusaders against drug trafficking raided the Potrero Prieto Communal Farm in Galeana, Nuevo Leon. They discovered large marihuana fields.

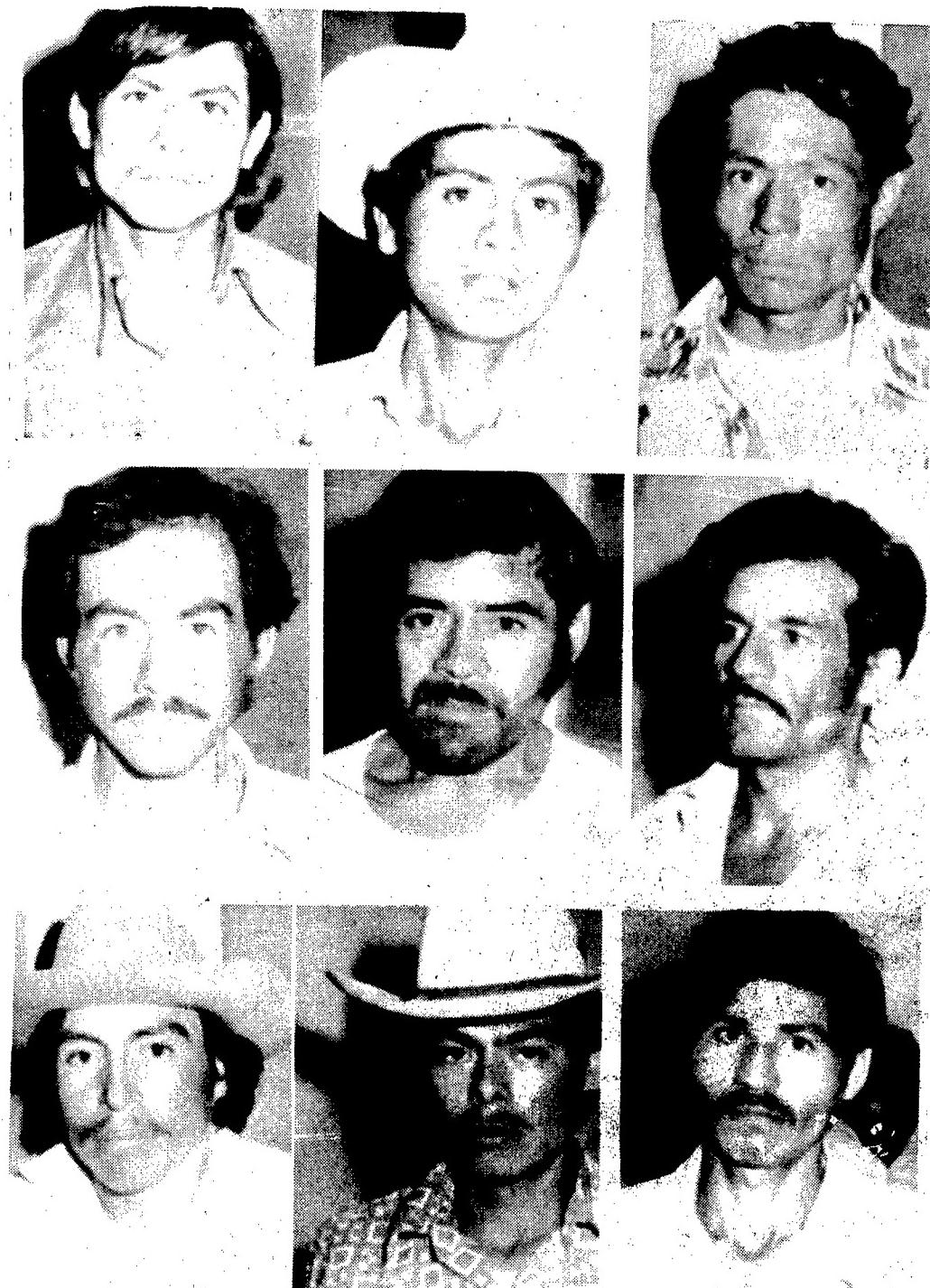
During their search of Potrero Prieto Communal Farm, 10 tons of marihuana and 1 kg of seeds selected for planting were seized. They arrested 14 communal farmers.

Juan Ramon Martinez, the recently appointed PJF group chief in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon; Rafael Diaz Albores, PJF commander in the northeast of Tamaulipas, and PJF agents from the Nuevo Laredo jurisdiction headed the investigation and search which resulted in a serious setback to organized drug trafficking in the north of the country.

They destroyed 12 large marihuana fields and seized numerous small arms, including 11 .22 cal and .30 cal carbines, numerous sacks and plastic bags.

The communal farmers arrested are Santana Torres, age 19; Arturo Escobedo, age 18; Jose Garcia, age 30; Patricio Escobedo, age 41; Pedro Sanchez, age 44; Genaro Garcia, age 50; Pedro Escobedo Torres, age 39; Juan Garcia Rosales, age 24; Isidro Escobedo, age 36; Javier Escalona, age 26; Jose Guzman, age 36; Santana Cruz, age 32; Gustavo Escobedo, age 27 and Jose Escobedo, age 36.

The PJF [Federal Judicial Police] caused drug trafficking a serious setback when they broke up a gang of traffickers who raised marihuana. The PJF and the army seized 10 tons of marihuana, destroyed several marihuana fields, confiscated firearms and arrested Genaro Garcia Bustamante, Pedro Escobedo, Juan Garcia Rosales, Santana Cruz Rosales, Jose Guzman Torres, Gustavo Escobedo, Arturo Escobedo, Javier Escalona, Isidro Moreno, Jose Escobedo, Arturo Escobedo, Santana Torres, Patricio Escobedo and Jose Garcia. In another action, they arrested Leon Delgado Iniguez with 181 kgs of marihuana in his possession.





8953
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

HIJACKERS CAPTURED WITH 1.25 TONS OF MARIHUANA

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 8 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by A. Lamas, a DIARIO reporter]

[Text] Yesterday, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police], with the help of the army, seized 1.25 tons of marihuana after Commander Alvaro Orozco Novelo conducted a skillful investigation. Also, two drug traffickers were arrested and two former agents of the Investigation Department of this city are expected to be arrested.

Commander Orozco Novelo informed EL DIARIO at the PJF offices about the latest seizure made by the agents under his command. The latest action resulted from testimony given by Salomon Canastillo Murrieta. He told Ernesto Avila Triana, the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, that he had stolen the marihuana found in his possession from a known large Nogales drug trafficker.

After Canastillo Murrieta had made his declaration, the agents went to the house at 35 Calle Frontera. During the search, they captured Jesus Gonzalez Tadeo and Francisco Guerrero Villa who were attempting to hide the marihuana. The latter is a leader of the "Adolfo Lopez Mateos" group who invaded the "Santa Barbara" estate.

The drug was found everywhere in the house: in the bedrooms, the parlor, the canopy and even in the bathroom.

During interrogation, the PJF made them confess that they had stolen the marihuana from a Nogales drug trafficker whose name was not disclosed so as not to obstruct the investigation since that person's arrest is expected momentarily.

In this same case, it was established that Jose Alfredo Carrillo and Jorge Alvarez, alias "El Uno", former Investigation Department agents dismissed for misconduct, also had stolen from the same drug trafficker 1 ton of marihuana. The police had not captured them as of yesterday.

Some rumors say that in this talked-about case a well-known Nogales official, his "assistant" and a notorious speculator may be implicated.

Tomorrow, another report on this case will be given in which "Many persons may fall into the hands of justice."

8953

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MARIHUANA STOLEN BY FORMER AND CURRENT POLICE OFFICERS

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 9 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by A. Lamas]

[Text] Yesterday, the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office here said that Jose Alfredo Carrillo and Jorge Alvarez, alias "El Uno", former Investigation Department agents, were imprisoned in the city garrison at the disposal of the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office. They are charged with the crime of drug trafficking. Two soldiers of the garrison are also charged with the same crime.

PJF[Federal Judicial Police] continued their investigations on the large seizures made in Nogales. They finally captured the two former agents. Although they were no longer agents, they had not turned in their credentials when they were dismissed by the municipal authorities but used them to arrest Jesus Conrado Lopez, a member of the Salomon Canastillo gang. By beatings, they forced him to confess where the loads of marihuana were kept.

After being beaten, Conrado Lopez confessed to the false agents where the drugs were kept. Carrillo and "El Uno" went there and took the marihuana to their own cache.

Later, Carrillo and "El Uno" were arrested by two police officers who in turn by beatings forced them to confess where they hid the marihuana. When the officials learned this, they took the drug to the home of the leader Francisco Guerrero Villa and Jesus Gonzalez Tadeo. While the latter were guarding the the drug, they were arrested by the PJF. The arrest of the two officials, said to belong to the local police, is expected momentarily.

Two Soldiers Also Involved Were Arrested.

The authorities arrested two soldiers whose names were not released. The surname of one of them is known to be Raygosa. They and Salomon Canastillo are said to have held up two drug traffickers on the Carretera Internacional and robbed them of 322 packages of marihuana which Canastillo sold soon afterward.

Another Arrest Here Yesterday

In another joint action arranged by Ernesto Avila Triana, agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, and Alvaro Orozco Novelo, the PJF chief, drug trafficking received another setback with the arrest of a man also associated with the Canastillo gang. Yesterday morning at Calle Ignacio de la Torre, they arrested the man with 35 kgs of marihuana.

Yesterday, Commander Orozco Novelo informed EL DIARIO that they arrested the drug trafficker Francisco Figueroa, age 27, resident at 14 Ignacio de la Torre. They confiscated from him a large box apparently containing shoes but in the packages, only loose marihuana was found.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

NEW PJF COMMANDER TOOK OFFICE--Clemente Moreno Hernandez, the new PJF [Federal Judicial Police] commander and Fernando Edgardo Velazquez, the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, made an official visit to Mayor Guillermo Guajardo Gonzalez. Yesterday, the new PJF commander said the Office of the Attorney General wants very much to reduce trafficking and arms and materiel smuggling. Seven PJF agents with a group chief will be detached to this frontier to combat drug trafficking and arms and materiel smuggling. He admitted that to eliminate this is very difficult but to reduce it is feasible. In comparison with other frontier cities, including Reynosa and Nuevo Laredo, Matamoros is not considered a port through which large-scale drug trafficking and smuggling is going on. The commander clarified that this does not mean that there is none since there is some. Fernando E. Velazquez, the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, and the PJF commander consider the coordination for combatting gangsterism between the municipal authorities and the army very positive. Velazquez said that a large number of persons captured illegally carrying firearms are being held. He said persons carrying arms which are for the exclusive use of the army are being investigated and will be put on trial. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 6 Jul 77 p 8-A] 8923

COLLECTOR OF PAYMENTS FOR DRUG SHIPMENTS SOUGHT--According to PJF [Federal Judicial Police] sources, by direct orders from Pedro Mireles Malpica, the Nogales agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, yesterday, a large number of PJF agents supported by about 50 soldiers from the city garrison led by Pablo Ernesto Avila Triana searched the residence at 192 Calzada de la Virgen belonging to a man named Peralta who evidently is a trafficker. The reports added that at 0530 hours, the PJF agents and military men surrounded the house and entered it in search of drugs. The house was found to be deserted when the authorities arrived there. It was said, but not confirmed, that the federal agents led by Avila Triana had made the search because the person sought is linked with the Salomon Canastillo gang recently captured by the PJF. As of yesterday, the PJF were hunting for a man who is said to have already left the city for the state of Sinaloa. It is said he is the collector of payments for the loads of drugs delivered to several drug traffickers here and that the residences searched are properties given in payment for drugs delivered. The Federal Public Prosecutor's Office gave no additional information. [Text] [Nogales EL DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 12 Jul 77 p 4] 8923

TREATMENT NOT IMPRISONMENT GIVEN ADDICTS--Yesterday, Oscar Flores Sanchez, the attorney general, said that penal action is not being taken against drug addicts since they are victims of the high-pressure drug traffickers. Addicts are capable of being rehabilitated; that is, cared for in public health centers. Besides, at times the police or guards, as a reprisal, put reefers into pockets of prisoners who are then remanded to federal authorities and sometimes are held in jail for years. Now, when a transgressor is arrested with a very small amount of marihuana or drugs which is felt to be for his personal use, he is acquitted. Yesterday, in the Third District Court of which Alejo Sierra Gomez is the judge, six cases were abandoned in favor of the defendants in whose possession were found less than 1 ounce of marihuana and were charged with crimes against public health. The persons benefitted by this resolution are Guadalupe Villa Garza, Aristeo Solorzano Martinez, Antonio Hernandez Montoya, Juan de Dios Perez Fernandez and Hipolito Castro M. Yesterday, the judge who heard the case ordered their release in compliance with the guidance from the attorney general [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jul 77 p 1-B] 8923

COMPLAINTS AGAINST FEDERAL OFFICIALS--"Siguiendo Pistas" column by Carlos D Pacheco--PJF[Federal Judicial Police] Agents Neglect Nuevo Laredo. While the PJF continue to combat gangs of drug distributors operating in regions distant from this frontier, the drug traffickers who use our city as the main link for supplying the United States with drugs do here whatever they wish. Evidence of this are the frequent arrests by American authorities of persons engaged in this illicit occupation. When he arrived here, Rodolfo Lopez Herrera, the PJF group chief, displayed a strong desire to struggle against drug trafficking and within a short period of time several tons of marihuana and other drugs were confiscated. However, for over 1 month, he has not announced any work in this city. The Federal Public Prosecutor's office refuses to provide information. Not even Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, the state agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's office, has had as apathetic an attitude as prosecuting attorney Jaime Eugenio Torres Espinosa whose attitude toward certain reporters of this city has been from the beginning that of not giving them information on PJF activities. In that federal organization and offices, the prevailing discrimination in favor of certain reporters is evident. However, the reports published in EL MANANA will continue to be coldly objective without fawning. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 14 Jul 77 p 3-B] 8923

FINANCING OF DRUG OPERATIONS--Yesterday, the Nogales authorities began an investigation based on tips received on illicit activities of several residents here who facilitate drug trafficking by large cash loans to traffickers operating in this region. Recently, drug trafficking has been partially blocked by praiseworthy work by federal agents in neighboring villages where valuable shipments for the United States have been detected. Yesterday, unofficial reports stated investigations are being made of activities of three well-known, large capitalists residing here. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 9 Jul 77 p 4] 8923

TRAFFICKERS TO BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL--Alvaro Saldana Guerra and Saturnino Arredondo Hernandez were captured in Miguel Aleman when they were making a heroin transaction. This week they will be remanded to the State District Court in session. Official reports state that the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] was informed that in Miguel Aleman transactions involving several kgs of heroin would be made. Investigations finally uncovered where these were to be made. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 14 July 77 p 3-B] 8923

HEROIN ASSAULT CHARGES--Ruben Briceno Lugo, Diego Leyva Carmona and Edmundo Gonzalez Saavedra. These three hoodlums were arrested by the police within the last few hours. They are charged with possession of heroin and reefers and with assault. [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 9 Jul 77 p 4] 8923

FOUR MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS--Salomon Canastillo, Romero Estrella Ortega, Jesus Conrado Lopez and Fulgencio Arturo Santos. Salomon Canastillo, the main trafficker, and his accomplices for 6 years operated on a large scale with marihuana. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 8 Jul 77 p 4] 8923

CSO: 5330

PERU

SAN SEBASTIAN COCAINE FACTORY RAIDED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 14 Jul 77 p 28

[Text] Cuzco, (by correspondent). The Civil Guard has raided a clandestine cocaine factory which had been established 5 kilometers from Cuzco in the district of San Sebastian.

In a lightning operation headed by Civil Guard Capt Wilbert Infantas, police broke into building number N-8 belonging to Andres Luna Enciso and found 500 arrobas of coca being ground up in an enormous pit measuring 40 square meters in area and 1.5 meters deep. In addition police confiscated 20 drums of imported acid, 20 bags of urea, 2 cylinders of kerosene and various equipment for the chemical manufacture of cocaine hydrochloride.

Eulogio Meza Ayma, Honorato Berrocal Ore, Eufracio Luna Soria, Celia Soria Romero and the owner of the house were arrested.

The coca had been purchased in La Convencion and Lares valleys for 60,000 gold soles. When the traffickers were discovered, they attempted to bribe the police with 200,000 soles.

Preliminary investigation has determined that the members of the Cuzco ring had been operating for 2 months. They also had 15 kilos of paste in their possession.

It is suspected that the real leaders of the ring are located in other parts of the country, perhaps in the capital or on the Peruvian-Bolivian border.

In addition, the Investigative Police discovered another clandestine cocaine factory in the development of Huancaro, on the outskirts of the city. No further information has been released in connection with this. These cases will be turned over to the trial judge on duty, Dr Felipe Perez Arteaga.

8735
CSO: 5300

PERU

BRIEFS

DRUG CONTROL TALKS WITH BRAZIL--An official mission from the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] headed by Chief Inspector Maj [PIP] Ricardo Galvez B., left yesterday to discuss with Brazilian authorities the most effective measures for ending the drug and narcotics traffic in the area. The Peruvian-Brazilian dialogue concerning the drug traffic was initiated under a group of agreements concluded by the Peruvian-Brazilian Mixed Commission. Inspector Galvez was accompanied by Chief Inspector [PIP] Jose Reynaldo Garcia Grados, head of the Division of International Drug Traffic. The Peruvian-Brazilian talks will last several days, and any agreements reached will be applied immediately. It should be mentioned that Peruvian police have launched an energetic campaign throughout the entire country and in border areas to reduce the traffic in drugs. Recently numerous arrests have been made, including some foreigners. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Jul 77 p 19] 8735

CSO: 5300

MAURITIUS

BRIEFS

OPIUM USER ARRESTED--A 24-year old Beau-Bassin man was arrested this week when a police search uncovered a quantity of opium and opium related paraphernalia in his home. [Excerpt] [Port Louis THE NATION in French 30 Jul 77 p 1]

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING SMASHED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 3 Aug 77 p 5

[Text]

Own Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — A major international drug network, stretching from Karachi, Pakistan, to Cape Town, has been smashed by detectives of the Cape Town branch of the Narcotics Bureau.

Nearly 20 000 Mandrax tablets worth an estimated R136 000 were seized.

Five South African Indian men, all in their twenties and belonging to prominent Cape Town families, have been arrested — three of them at the D F Malan Airport on Monday.

A senior police spokesman said today the detectives had known for some time that Mandrax tablets — a habit forming sleeping tablet — were reaching Cape Town from other areas.

After intensive investigations they received information which led them to the D F Malan Airport on Monday afternoon.

There they arrested two Indian men soon after they stepped off an aircraft from Johannesburg. Hidden in the luggage the detectives are said to have found nearly 20 000 tablets.

Two other men have been arrested.

CSO: 5300

FRANCE

BRIEFS

SENTENCING OF DRUG USERS--On Tuesday, 12 July, the Besancon Court of Appeal gave its decision on the appeal by the Lons-le-Saunier Public Prosecutor's Office to increase the sentences of several dozen young drug users tried by this court (LE MONDE) 23 and 26-27 June). Of the 16 sentences appealed, 9 were upheld (8 months of imprisonment, with 4 of the sentences having an additional 3-year suspended sentence including an 18-month probationary period for certain of the accused). Three of the sentences were increased: Gerard Vieille's sentence was increased from a 4-year to a 5-year prison term, but he received a suspended sentence of 33 months instead of 24; Alain Billod-Morel, given a 3-year term with a 16 month suspended sentence by the Lons-le-Saunier Court, was given 4 years with a 2-year suspended sentence by the Court of Appeal; and Didier Mercier had his sentence increased from 4 to 5 years, with no possibility of parole for the first 2½ years. The last four cases were dismissed by the Lons-le-Saunier Court. The court ordered a psychiatric examination for 1 of the defendants, for whom the Lons public prosecutor had demanded a 9-year prison term. The court gave 2-year and 18-month prison terms to 2 others, whose sentences will run concurrently with the 2-year sentences given them by the Colmar Court. The court felt that the fourth defendant had been given a fair trial by the Saint-Etienne Court and that no further court action could, therefore, be taken. /Text/ /Paris LE MONDE in French 16 Jul 77 p 17/ 11935

LARGE HASHISH SEIZURE--At the "Pourcaresse" villa in La Garde-Freinet (Var), during the night of Wednesday, 20 July, the police seized 232 kilos of hashish (133 kilos in the attic of the house and 99 kilos in the trunk of a car parked in the courtyard). Inspector Greco, assistant chief of the Marseille SRPJ Criminal Investigation Department /, indicated that the villa had been recently rented by several men, one of whom was Alberto Steiss, one of the drug traffickers arrested near Sainte-Maxime (Var) on 5 July (LE MONDE, 6 July) in the "Les Marcelets" villa at the same time as Marie-Christine von Opel. The police are revealing no information as to the circumstances surrounding the operation. /Text/ /Paris LE MONDE in French 26 Jul 77 p 22/ 11935

DRUG CHARGES AGAINST HEIRESS--Nice, France--Today, police arrested here the daughter of the German Opel auto manufacturer along with six of her countrymen involved in a 1 ton of hashish transaction. The Frejus police investigation brigade carried out the spectacular operation in a village near Saint Maxime on the French Rivera. Gendarmerie sources said that investigations of this vast drug traffic entered the decisive phase 3 days ago. Up to last night direct surveillances and secret investigations by Frejus and Saint Maxime gendarmes of the occupants of a villa at Plan de la Tour were made. Finally, the investigators decided to go into action. The prisoners are Marie Christine von Opel, Michael Carg, Ronald Lang, Hans Sliber, Angelica Stha [sic], Wolfgang Selch and Alberto Steiss. They are being interrogated at the Saint Tropez police headquarters by members of the anti-drug brigade from Marseilles and the local investigation body. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 8 Jul 77 p 4] 8923

CSO: 5330

ITALY

USE OF METHADONE TREATMENT FOR DRUG ADDICTS ANALYZED

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 13 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by Luigi Cancrini: "The Drug Illusion"]

[Text] Cultural misunderstandings and speculative interests are at the basis of the widespread conviction that it may be possible to cure drug addicts through the administration in special centers of "substitute" substances such as methadone. The essential function of health workers.

One of the major reasons for confusion in the most recent controversy over drug addiction is indubitably connected with the use of "substitute" drugs in the treatment of heroin addicts. In many Italian cities today discussion on this subject has gone beyond the circles of persons involved in this work and has become the subject of technical-political debate. In this sense, I believe it is opportune to provide a few initial reflections which may be useful to all of those (health workers, users, citizens) who wish to take part in the discussion and go to the heart of the problem.

It must be said, first of all, that the idea of substituting one (very dangerous) drug provided by illegal traffic with a less dangerous drug, the dosage, effects and sources of which can be exactly controlled, constitutes a decisive step forward in the treatment of addiction to morphine, heroin and barbiturates, in patients, that is, in whom a sudden suspension of the habit causes extremely grave physical and psychological suffering.

It is, in fact, indubitable that they are thus removed from dependence on that drug, from the greed for money of drug traffickers, from the risk of being pushed to criminal behavior in search of drugs and to the tendency, in general, of distrust and hatred toward a society which "punishes" rather than cures their suffering. In this sense, the provision in the new narcotics law which, after defining the removal of penalties for drug use, clearly affirms the right of the drug addict who requests it to obtain treatment is also very important. It opens the way in Italy, too, to the therapeutic use of drugs capable of helping the addict to rid himself of his addiction.

As often happens, however, an originally positive idea can be utilized in ways which are much less good. When illnesses become a serious problem (in this case heroin addiction) there is usually someone (in this case the pharmaceutical industry) which begins to smell business. In this case business begins with proposing to doctors, more concerned with effects than causes, and to a frightened and misinformed public opinion the idea that to cure the heroin addict means to accept his addiction and his need for drugs.

Skipping over the complex reality which lies behind the choice of the heroin addict by placing itself in open competition with the illegal market, but with the intention of speculating in an enormously similar way on the same situations of suffering and difficulties, a big group of useful idiots succeeded in proposing, in the early 60s in the United States, and more recently in Italy, the basis for a gross misunderstanding, but one destined to exercise notable influence on public opinion and on less wary health workers. This group presented heroin and morphine derivatives and similar preparations as drugs capable of "curing" drug addiction.

On the pharmacological level, the substitution of methadone for heroin was justified (as is true) by noting that methadone is metabolized and eliminated much more slowly than heroin and that its use, therefore, makes it possible for the therapist to rapidly increase the interval between doses. From the clinical viewpoint, however, the tendency to present methadone as a drug capable of "curing" drug addiction remained and remains entirely unjustified, as anyone who has had the occasion to test it or who has done any serious reading on the matter well knows.

Serious Consequences

In view of all this, one might be astonished not only at the extent of the controversy but at the very fact that it has developed.

It is always important, however, to point out that the attempt to make any kind of disturbance fall into the classic "model" of infectious diseases finds an easy consensus in what Macacaro incisively defined as "medicine of capital." In the particular case of drug addiction, the misunderstanding is to present heroin as the causal agent, youth, poverty and hardship as predisposing conditions, methadone as the therapeutic principle, and the opening of centers as the disease spreads, for the administration of the new, miraculous drug (already being sold in Italy by three different pharmaceutical industries, with four others making application to sell it) as the remedy offered by health organizations.

It would be foolish, however, to ignore the fact that, although ridiculous from the cultural viewpoint, this misunderstanding is already causing serious consequences in our own country. It would be foolish to ignore (or to pretend to ignore) that the "cure" based on methadone completely closes the way to discussion of the real causes of drug addiction and the

need to confront them in a responsible and consistent manner. To pass off as "therapeutic" that which had been, many years ago, a courageous choice directed at the containment of the illegal market by controlling some tragic moments in the career of the drug addict, has served so far only to make way for the spread of another drug addiction, addiction to methadone, to the rise of great expectations and emotional reactions on the part of the public, the creation of many "specialized" centers (especially in the United States) and the enrichment of the industries which produce it. The drug addict has not been cured despite the presence of the new centers and the new "therapy."

I believe that it is important to reflect on these facts at a time when the demand for centers variously named or disguised but always intended mainly for the distribution of methadone is growing in Italy, too. It is important to firmly point out the idea contained in the new law on drug addiction which recognizes for the alcoholic and the addict the right to treatment in the normal health establishments and that this obviously rules out the creation of specialized centers. The use of methadone, too, must be proposed, discussed and regulated on the level of these various services, in consideration of their characteristics and never accepting the idea that one of these services can be centered solely on what is and must be considered as a brief phase, one which can never be decisive in the therapeutic work.

It seems possible to accept the following premises:

- a) that the controlled use of methadone is justified for brief periods when a patient who demonstrates an abstinence syndrome (not more than 5 to 10 percent of those who ask for help!) asks to be subjected to detoxification. The use of gradually reduced doses aimed at restoring physical freedom from the narcotic is, in these cases, a therapeutic procedure of considerable importance and one which can be used within the facilities of any good civil hospital;
- b) that the use of methadone should never be permitted, on the ambulatorial level, when the drug addict asks to be treated but is not willing to recognize that it is the duty rather than the right of the person who gives him the methadone to ascertain the real necessity for its use. A serious differential diagnosis between simulation, psychological dependence and a real condition of abstinence is important primarily for the patient himself more than for the health worker;
- c) that real therapy for the drug addict begins after he is completely weaned from the drug (and consequently the eventual use of methadone): that is to say, out of the hospital and on the level of health centers which must be in a position to take quite different initiatives;
- d) that it is necessary to avoid, in the brief periods of time in which hospital care is needed, any kind of crowding drug addicts together. That is to say, special departments or hospital ghettos of any kind must not be

organized for them. Responsible, careful and effective initiatives must be taken only to bring up to date and to support the health workers in the normal areas of admittance and treatment;

e) that the drug addict does not need "maternal care," nor health workers such as to be proposed for beatification but interlocutors capable of discussing his requests and helping to restore his faith in the possibility of his recovery. A health worker ready to accept the idea that the drug addict is incurable (as he presents himself sometimes) and that he must always be "contented" is, in fact, a worker whose lack of faith can have considerable influence on the outcome of the patient's therapy. All of those doctors who offer "substitute" drugs outside of any program to wean the patient (through gradual and controlled dose reduction) fall into this error with drug addicts, who like to define themselves as "addicts to the last."

But the problem is certainly more general and hence political when one reflects, looking beyond the single case to the more general significance of relations between man and drugs in our modern industrial society.

May I conclude, on this point, by citing Engels who talks of the use of opium in the families of English workers who back in 1840 were taking their medicines "to harm themselves and to bring money into the pockets of the manufacturers" rather than to cure themselves. One of the most harmful of these patent medicines, Engels noted "is a potion composed of narcotic substances, particularly laudanum, which is sold under the name of Godfrey's cordial. Women who work at home and must care for their own children or the children of others, give them this beverage so they will be quiet and, as many believe, so that they will grow stronger. Often they begin to administer these medicines soon after the baby's birth, without knowing the consequences of this "heart tonic," until the children die of it. The more the child's body becomes insensible to the effects of the opium, the larger quantities they administer. When the cordial no longer has any effect, the children are even given pure laudanum, often from 15 to 20 drops at a time. The Nottingham coroner testified before a government committee that a single druggist, according to his own admission, had converted 6.5 quintals of syrup into Godfrey's cordial in one year. It is easy to imagine what effect this treatment has on children. They become pale, languishing and weak and most of them die before reaching 2 years of age."

A Different Transformation

I think that it is advisable to reflect on testimony of this kind at a time when there is a tendency to emphasize the therapeutic significance of choices directed toward placating by putting them to sleep the sufferings and the difficulties then expressed by the children of English workers and today young people who, through heroin, lose their capacity to participate in the reality of the world surrounding them. They do not need tranquilizing or consoling answers. On the contrary, they must be helped to transform all

of their apparently inexhaustible capacity for suffering into a lucid, angry and happy determination to change things.

Among drug addicts and many other underprivileged and oppressed minorities it may sometimes be inevitable that a process of this kind may provoke violent conflicts. To mask one's lack of confidence or interest behind "merciful" or excessively "understanding" attitudes serves to tranquillize the conscience of the health workers but not to help those who need it.

I believe that this is the interpretation to be given to the "no" with which many comrades have answered the talk prevalent in many places about specialized centers and the use of methadone which would be permitted in them. To believe in a different transformation and a different condition of man also means this: to make the objectives of therapeutic intervention coincide with those of a serious intervention on the real situation level in which the suffering of the addict is structured.

8339
CSO: 5300

SWITZERLAND

DRUG CONSUMPTION BY YOUTHS STUDIED

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 16 Jul 77 p 19

[Article by Dr Cecile Ernst: "Forbidden and Accepted Drugs"]

[Text] Psychoactive drugs are, according to the definition of WHO, all substances which act on the brain. In this sense pertinent medicines, alcohol and tobacco are drugs. The "modern" drugs (Cannabis, amphetamine, opiate, LSD etc.) form within the drug group the subgroup of "drugs in the narrow sense." One can also distinguish them from the socially acceptable drugs as the "forbidden ones, and one can study how the consumption of forbidden and accepted drugs is linked.

Studies From 1971 and 1974

In 1971 the use of forbidden drugs was investigated through questionnaires by the Zurich Psychiatric University Clinic¹ among persons subject to military service in the Zurich Canton. The "drug wave" had reached Switzerland about 2 years before. In 1974 a new selection of persons subject to military service was again questioned by the same method; by then it had been 5 years since drugs had been available on a large scale.² How did drug consumption of 19-year-old men develop in these 3 years?

The earlier study established that about a quarter of those questioned had at some time or other consumed drugs in the narrow sense. Consumption of all intensity is included in this quarter: from one-time sampling to habituation. In 1974 it was shown that the proportion of persons with any contact with drugs had not grown; it amounted to a quarter as before. On the other hand changes in the frequency of consumption were revealed.

The Same Number of Consumers, but More and Harder Drugs

In both studies persons with drug contact were divided according to admitted frequency of use into "light users" or "experimenters" with about 1-10 contacts, medium users with about 11-50 contacts, and "heavy users" with more than 50 contacts. Compared with 1971 the number of persons with heavy

drug use had grown by 1974; among those subject to military service in the city of Zurich it had grown from 5 to 10 percent and among all those subject to military service from 4 to 7 percent. On the other hand the number of experimenters had declined. The proportion of youths who along with other drugs in the narrow sense use the extremely addictive opiates (heroin, morphine) increased, while the proportion of drug users who limited themselves to cannabis (hashish, marihuana) declined. Therefore, although the number of persons with drug contact did not increase proportionally, a shift occurred among drug users toward more frequent use and toward the use of more dangerous drugs.

More Cases of Alcohol Intoxication

What is the situation with the permissible conventional drugs, alcohol and tobacco? The intensity of use of alcohol was measured against the approximate number of estimated cases of drunkenness (alcohol use and drug use in the narrow sense are comparable, since in the case of the latter a condition of alteration of awareness is strived for.) In 1971, 38 percent of those subject to military service had been drunk at least once in their lives, while in 1974 it was 54 percent. The proportion of persons with at least one intensive alcohol experience had therefore increased by 16 percent, while the proportion of persons with at least one drug contact remained constant. If alcohol use is differentiated in the same way as drug use, according to frequency (light users with 1-10 instances of drunkenness, medium with 11-50 instances, heavy with over 50 instances--at age 19!), it is confirmed that all degrees of severity of alcohol use have increased (Cf table below).

Table

Frequency and Percentage Distribution Among Drug Consumers With Varying Degree of Use

Region	Non-Users	Light Users (1-10 times)	Medium Users (11-50 times)	Heavy Users (over 50 times)	Total
Instances of Drunkenness					
City 1971	1074 (62.0%)	478 (27.7%)	116 (6.7%)	62 (3.6%)	1730 (100%)
1974	300 (43.1%)	241 (34.7%)	86 (12.4%)	68 (9.8%)	695 (100%)
Lake					
1971	335 (63.7%)	154 (29.3%)	27 (5.1%)	10 (1.9%)	526 (100%)
1974	314 (50.7%)	221 (35.7%)	54 (8.7%)	31 (5.0%)	620 (100%)
Rural Areas					
1971	311 (58.9%)	168 (31.8%)	32 (6.0%)	18 (3.4%)	529 (100%)
1974	129 (42.8%)	121 (40.1%)	37 (12.3%)	15 (5.0%)	302 (100%)

Development of Tobacco Use

Tobacco use shows a development similar to drugs in the narrow sense: The proportion of those who smoke at all remains at 50-60 percent as before. But the intensity of consumption has increased; those who smoke smoke more cigarettes per day than in 1971. A third of 19-year-old men in the city of Zurich admitted a consumption of at least 20 cigarettes a day in 1974. The consumption of drugs in the narrow sense is therefore embedded in an intensive consumption of conventional and accepted drugs, which affects twice as many people and is not only intensifying, but--in the case of alcohol--is also spreading. As in 1971 it was found that higher alcohol use frequently appeared together with heavy drug use.

Influence of the Environment

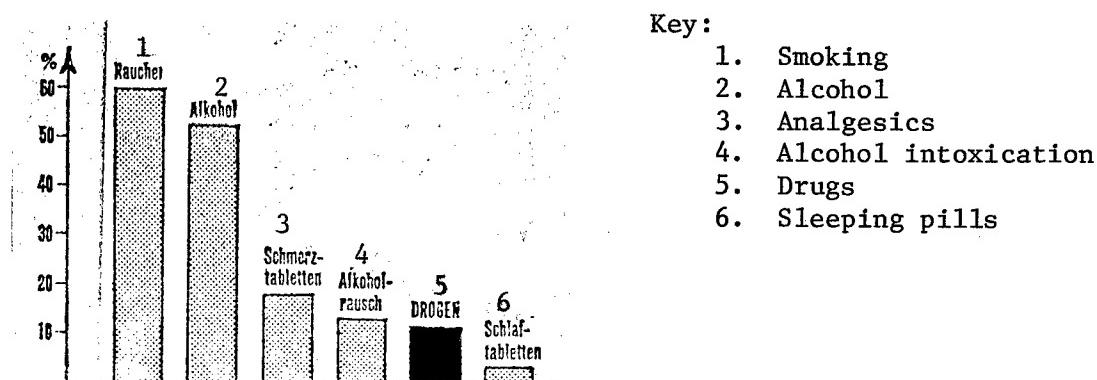
This is confirmed in a study by the Basel University Psychiatric Clinic of over 4000 recruits from the whole of Switzerland which was carried out in 1972/73 with questionnaires and partly with interviews.³ One-fourth had drug experience, which the Zurich study confirmed and which speaks for the reliability of that study (in the case of the Basel investigation, a further test of reliability was achieved by comparison of the results of the questionnaires and the interviews and in the case of the Zurich study through comparison of questionnaires given anonymously and those which were signed). Three percent admitted more than 50 drug contacts, and were therefore by definition heavy users. Eight percent mentioned one consumption of alcohol per week which corresponded to at least 350 grams of pure alcohol (at least 9 liters of beer or 4.5 liters of wine or 1 liter of hard liquor). Some 17.4 percent smoked more than 20 cigarettes per day. High alcohol consumption was noted most frequently in the hotel and construction industries and in cantons with much wine production. The influence of environment on use of conventional drugs is expressed also in the fact that--as was already shown in the Zurich study of 1971--a correlation could be established between drug use of sons and drug use by their parents admitted by them. Recruits who stated that their parents "never" used alcohol comprised 5 percent of the class of heaviest users (350 grams of pure alcohol per week); if the parents drank "several times per day," they comprised 25 percent. Among recruits who stated that "no one" smokes at home, 5 percent smoked more than 20 cigarettes per day; among those who said that "all" smoked, the figure was 26 percent. More intensive drug use was also linked in this study with high alcohol and tobacco use.

Earlier Drug Contacts of Youths

Conventional drug use begins early. A questionnaire study carried out in 1972/73 on 1,732 Basel pupils of 13 to 20 years of age (Higher Level, trade schools, middle schools, average age 16 years) showed: drug contacts in the case of 19 percent, regular drug use in the case of 10 percent (in which contact and use sharply rose with age). Twenty-eight percent described themselves as habitual smokers; 7.3 percent of those questioned say that they

"often" drink alcohol; 13 percent had already been drunk several times. (For male youths alone it was found that 32 percent were habitual smokers, 11 percent drink "often," 20 percent have been "drunk several times.") The usual correlation between consumption of conventional and unconventional drugs was also confirmed here, as was that between heavy alcohol consumption of parents with their own alcohol consumption.⁴

All investigations show: alcohol and tobacco are of much greater importance than the drugs in the narrow sense, which is expressed clearly in the graph, which concerns the Basel schoolchildren.



Key:

1. Smoking
2. Alcohol
3. Analgesics
4. Alcohol intoxication
5. Drugs
6. Sleeping pills

Caption: Comparative Distribution of Drugs Studied (percentages of those questioned with occasional to frequent use or several instances of alcohol intoxication)

The "drug problem" should therefore not be dismissed as trivial; it is particularly severe because "hard" drugs (heroin) lead so quickly to severe physical and psychological damage as do none of the conventional drugs. The drugs in the narrow sense are the tip of a giant iceberg or permissible conventional drugs and insufficiently observed drug use among people of every age, especially also among schoolchildren.

The Effect of the Examples

"The behavioral expectations toward youth have changed. They have been adapting themselves--long overdue--to the actual behavior of a great majority of those adults who are an example for the children and youths...Nothing must appear more mendacious than a prohibition against smoking in the face of the teachers' room enveloped in a cloud of bluish smoke..." (Weidmann, p 68). Smoking and drinking by youths in this sense is "adaptive" behavior, namely adaptation to the example set by adults. The use of drugs in the narrow sense, if they are already offered, is really only the logical next step. Because something unusual is being consumed and because a protest is often linked with use, drug addicts are best suited to the role of scapegoat--but they are only carrying further, with other means, what they see around them.

Alcohol use per capita by year (pure alcohol) rose from 1971 to 1972 by 0.25 liter, but from 1972-1973 by 0.4 liter.² Since World War II use of sleeping pills and analgesics by the middle-aged and older generation has risen continually.³ In 1975 there were 127 packs of cigarettes (2537 cigarettes) sold per inhabitant. As long as in all newspapers and billboards alcohol and tobacco are recommended in absurd fashion as a means to happiness, success, attractiveness and sporty swagger, as long as conventional drugs are not taxed more highly (and it is known that that diminishes consumption⁵), there will be no opportunity to oppose our "healthy world" pharisaically to the groggy world of the fixers.

FOOTNOTES

1. J. Angst, U. Baumann, U. Mueller, R. Ruppen, "Epidemiology of Drug Consumption in the Zurich Canton," ARCH. PSYCHIAT. NERVENKR. 217, pp 11-24 (1973).
2. M. Sieber, J. Angst, U. Baumann, "Development of Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Consumption," SCHW. MED. WSCHR., 106, pp 1-7 (1976).
3. R. Battegay, R. Muehlemann, D. Hell, R. Zehnder, P. Hoch, P. Dillinger, "Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco in the Life of the Young Man," Karger, Basel 1977.
4. M. Weidmann, "The Drug Behavior of Basel School Pupils," SOCIAL STRATEGIES, Vol 5, Basel 1977 (pub by P. Trappe).
5. K. Ernst, "Making Alcohol Expensive Helps. Health Policy Bases for Alcohol Legislation," NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG 10/11 Dec 1976, p 35.

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WEST GERMANY

BRIEFS

HASHISH IN TURK'S CAR--Mainz--The state prosecutor's office in Mainz announced today that 80 kilograms of hashish worth about DM 800,000 were found in the car of a Turk after it had broken down while he was on his way from Turkey to the Federal Republic. Although he denied knowing that the hashish was there, what he told police led them to another three Turks living in the Federal Republic. Warrants have been issued for the arrest of all four. [Hamburg DPA in German 1356 GMT 15 Aug 77 LD]

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END